CITY HILIGHTS

The Truth Speaks

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Fugitive Mehul Choksi challenges extradition

NEW DELHI

Fugitive diamantaire Mehul Choksi has challenged before the Supreme Court of Belgium the October 17 order of the Antwerp Court of Appeals, which had termed India's request seeking his extradition "enforceable", officials said Monday. In response to queries sent by the PTI, the public prosecutor at the Court of Appeal in Antwerp said Choksi filed an appeal in the Court of Cassation on October 30. "This appeal is strictly limited to legal merits and will be judged by the Court of Cassation. During this procedure, the execution of the extradition is suspended," Ken Witpas said.

BJP won't make Nitish Kumar CM: AICC Chief

HAJIPUR

AICC Chief Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday claimed that if the NDA returns to power in Bihar, the BJP will not make Nitish Kumar the CM, and instead give the post to some 'chela' of the saffron party. Addressing a rally at Raja Pakar in Vaishali district, Kharge lambasted Kumar for allegedly betraying the legacy of socialist icons like Jayaprakash Narayan, Ram Manohar Lohia and Karpoori Thakur and joining hands with "anti-women" BJP, which he said is a believer of 'Manu Smriti'.

SIR in Bengal: Final preparations underway

KOLKATA

A day before the rollout of the Special Intensive Review (SIR) of electoral rolls in West Bengal, chief electoral officer Manoj Kumar Agarwal on Monday held a meeting with all district magistrates as a part of their last-minute preparation, officials said. "The CEO is holding a virtual meeting with all the DMs and giving out necessary instructions before the formal rollout of SIR tomorrow. He is giving necessary instructions to them," they said. Block Level Officers (BLOs) and other officials have been instructed to conduct house-to-house visits starting Tuesday and carry out the process without fear.

Have no problem as long as RSS is registered: Kharge

BENGALURU

Amid his call to ban RSS activities in government institutions, Karnataka IT-BT Minister Priyank Kharge questioned the organisation's transparency and accountability. Speaking to reporters, he said he has "no objection" to the RSS as long as it registers itself and seeks proper government permission for its activities. Kharge criticised the RSS for operating without registration, saying, "Why is the RSS afraid of Indian laws and the Constitution? How can an unregistered organisation hold nationwide marches with lakhs of participants?.

Student Gang-raped by 3 Men near Coimbatore

COIMBATORE

A 19-year-old college student was allegedly gang-raped by three unidentified men near Coimbatore International Airport on November 2, police said on Monday. The incident, which occurred close to a high-security zone, has sparked widespread outrage and concern over women's safety in Tamil Nadu.

According to police, the assailants chased away the victim's male friend before sexually assaulting her. Both the student and her friend have been admitted to the hospital for medical treatment. Taking swift action, the police have constituted seven special teams to trace and apprehend the culprits. Investigators are reviewing CCTV footage from the surrounding areas and have intensified patrolling near the airport and adjoining regions.

Police form seven special teams to nab the culprits behind the shocking assault.

Condemning the crime, Tamil Nadu BJP president K. Annamalai said such incidents have exposed a growing sense of lawlessness in the state. "Since the DMK came to power, anti-social elements no longer fear the law or the police," he alleged in a post on X. He further accused the ruling party of protecting offenders instead of ensuring justice, adding, "The DMK government has utterly failed to prevent sexual crimes and ensure women's safety."

Police have assured that the accused will be arrested soon and face the strictest legal action.

24 Killed as Truck Rams into Passenger Bus in Telangana

The mishap occurred when a speeding lorry carrying gravel collided with an RTC bus, crushing several passengers under debris

Helpline Numbers: 9912919545, 9440854433

HYDERABAD

At least 24 people were killed and several others injured in a horrific road accident in Ranga Reddy district on Monday morning. The accident occurred at around 6.15 a.m. at Indirareddy Nagar near Chevella when a speeding lorry carrying gravel collided head-on with a Telangana Road Transport Corporation (RTC) Tandur-Hyderabad bus.

The impact was so severe that the bus's front portion was completely mangled, and gravel from the lorry buried several passengers. Both the RTC driver and the tipper driver died instantly. Officials used earthmovers to carry out rescue operations as passengers were trapped inside.

Fourteen injured are undergoing treatment at PMR Hospital in Tandur, while ten others are admitted to Vikarabad Hospital. Critically injured victims were shifted to Gandhi and Osmania Hospitals in Hyderabad following instructions from Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, who also directed the Chief Secretary to set up a control room at the Secretariat.

Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar held discussions with RTC Managing Director Nagi Reddy and the Ranga Reddy District Collector to ensure relief efforts and medical aid.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over the loss of lives and announced an ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh each for the next of kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured.

Police have launched an investigation to determine the cause of the crash, which has left the local community in deep shock.

12 dead, several injured as truck ploughs into vehicles

JAIPUR

In a tragic incident in Jaipur's Harmada area, at least 12 people were killed and several others injured when a speeding dumper truck crashed into multiple vehicles on Monday afternoon. Officials said the accident occurred near Loha Mandi when the dumper, coming from Road No. 14 towards a petrol pump, lost control and hit vehicles one after another over a stretch of nearly 300 metres.

Jaipur District Collector Jitendra Soni confirmed the fatalities and said that around 12 people sustained injuries, with some reported to be in critical condition. The injured have been rushed to nearby hospitals, including the trauma centre at SMS Hospital. Police teams quickly arrived at the scene, diverting traffic and coordinating efforts to remove the mangled vehicles from the road. The dumper, which was empty at the time, caused a massive pile-up, leading to chaos and panic among commuters.

Residents were seen rebuilding their lives on Monday after authorities demolished their homes. ▸ CH PHOTO

Bulldozed for Rail Project, Families Claim No Notice Given

BENGALURU

A sudden demolition drive for the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project has left nearly 150 residents homeless near KG Halli Railway Gate. Bulldozers rolled in on recently, tearing down 29 homes in a predominantly Tamil-speaking Dalit neighbourhood.

Residents claimed they were not given any prior notice before the Railway Protection Force (RPF) began demolitions. "They came in the morning and started bulldozing. We begged for a few days to vacate, but they refused," said M Sonia, a garment worker. Families who have lived there for generations alleged that officials misled them into signing papers months ago. "They said they'd remove only the compound wall, not our houses," said P Amudha, another resident. Officials from SW Railways, however, denied the allegations, maintaining that due process was followed.

SC gives K'taka 15 days to issue final notification for GBA polls

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has granted the Karnataka government 15 days to issue the final notification for the delimitation of wards in all five municipal bodies under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

A three-judge bench comprising Justices Surya Kant, Ujjal Bhuyan, and Joymalya Bagchi granted the extension while hearing a petition filed by Congress leader M. Shivaraju and others regarding the long-pending GBA elections. Appearing for the state government, senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi and Advocate General K. Shashikiran Shetty informed the court that officials had been appointed to conduct a social and educational survey, which delayed the delimitation process.

CM Hails Indian Women's Cricket Team's Historic World Cup Victory

BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday congratulated the Indian women's cricket team for scripting history by winning the World Cup, calling it a proud and inspiring moment for the entire nation.

The Chief Minister said the victory was a testament to the team's skill, passion, and perseverance, adding that the players had set a benchmark for future generations. "The Indian women's cricket team has etched their name in history by clinching the World Cup with an extraordinary display of skill, passion, and perseverance. Heartfelt congratulations to our incredible world champions!" Siddaramaiah wrote in a post on X. He further said, "Throughout the tournament, Team India demonstrated outstanding teamwork, resilience, and consistency — proving beyond doubt that they truly deserved this glorious victory."

CM urges quality films over subsidy gains

MYSURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has urged filmmakers to focus on producing meaningful and quality Kannada movies rather than making films just to claim government subsidies. He said subsidies should reward good films that leave a positive mark on society.

Speaking at a program organized by the Information and Public Relations Department at Ghatikotsava Bhavan, the Chief Minister presented the Karnataka State Film Awards for 2018 and 2019. He praised the late Dr. Rajkumar, saying the legendary actor followed the same values in real life that he portrayed on screen, which made him a timeless icon in people's hearts.

"Cinema is a powerful medium that can influence society deeply. Therefore, film stars should live as responsibly in real life as they do in their on-screen roles," Siddaramaiah said. He encouraged the industry to create films that inspire positive social change.

CM Siddaramaiah urges filmmakers to produce meaningful, high-quality Kannada films that inspire society rather than focusing solely on earning government subsidies.

The Chief Minister announced that all pending film subsidies for the current year will be released soon. He also shared that 160 acres of land have been allotted in Mysuru for the construction of an international-standard film city. "The legal formalities will be completed, and the construction will begin in two months," he assured.

Siddaramaiah criticized the previous government for not presenting film awards on time. He stated that awards should be given every year without delay. "Our government has decided to ensure film awards are distributed annually, recognizing the films of the respective year," he declared.

Reflecting on changes in cinema, the Chief Minister said, "Earlier, there were fewer movies, and we watched the same ones repeatedly. Today, the number of films has grown, but social concern and quality are declining. That is why I have reduced watching movies now."

He emphasized that the government remains committed to supporting the healthy growth of the Kannada film industry.

He also added that the state government is committed to the overall development of the Kannada film industry and the protection of the language. He assured that from next year onwards, film awards and subsidies will be granted in the same year itself.

AFGHAN QUAKE DEVASTATION

20 killed, 320 hurt as 6.3 magnitude earthquake hits eastern Afghanistan

KABUL

A powerful 6.3-magnitude earthquake struck northern Afghanistan early Monday, killing at least 20 people and injuring more than 320 near the city of Mazar-e-Sharif. The tremor, recorded by the US Geological Survey at a depth of 28 kilometers, caused widespread panic and destruction in Balkh and Samangan provinces. Authorities warned that the death toll could rise as rescue teams reached remote areas.

Health Ministry spokesperson Sharfat Zaman said emergency response and medical teams had been deployed, with nearby hospitals placed on high alert to treat the injured. Videos circulating on social media showed rescuers pulling bodies from the rubble and searching for survivors, though the footage could not be independently verified.

Among the significant sites affected was Mazar-e-Sharif's historic Blue Mosque — one of Afghanistan's holiest landmarks, believed to be the burial site of Prophet Mohammad's cousin and son-in-law. The 15th-century structure suffered partial damage, with shattered masonry and tiles scattered across its courtyard, though its main structure remained intact. The earthquake also disrupted power supplies in several areas, including the capital, Kabul, according to Da Afghanistan Breshna Company.

QUICK READ

CM Promises to Fulfill Kodava Community's Key Demands

Bengaluru

A delegation from the Kodava Language Federation met Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at his Home Office, Krishna, on Monday to discuss various issues concerning the Kodava community. The delegation presented several long-pending demands related to language, culture, and community welfare. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah assured them that the government would take positive steps to address some of their key requests. The meeting has sparked considerable interest in both political and social circles, signalling potential progress for the Kodava cause.

M Nithya Wins Second Prize in State-Level Poster Making

Bengaluru

M Nithya, a student of SJ School of Law, Kengeri-Uttarahalli Main Road, won the second prize in the state-level "Sardar @ 150" Poster Making Competition organised by the State NSS Cell, Youth and Sports Department, at Karnataka State Law University. Representing her institution, Nithya showcased creativity and skill that earned her the recognition among participants from across the state. The college President, Principal, and Professors congratulated her on the achievement and lauded her for bringing honour to the institution.

Pink Metro Line to Begin Operations in May 2026: DCM

Bengaluru

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar announced that Bengaluru's much-awaited Pink Line Metro, connecting Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara, will be inaugurated in May 2026. Sharing the update on social media platform X, Shivakumar said the project is progressing on schedule and will significantly ease traffic congestion while improving public transport connectivity across the city. The 21.3-km corridor, once operational, will connect key areas of southern and northern Bengaluru, further expanding the Namma Metro network and enhancing urban mobility for thousands of daily commuters.

Take Action against Unauthorised Constructions: Addl Commissioner

Officials must act strictly without yielding to political pressure or influential persons, says Additional Commissioner

BENGALURU

At a coordination meeting of the Engineering Department of Bengaluru East City Corporation held on Monday, Additional Commissioner (Development) Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar instructed officials to take firm and impartial action against unauthorised constructions and ensure accountability in developmental works across all divisions.

During the meeting, the Additional Commissioner directed officials to categorise all civil works within the East City Corporation limits into three groups — completed works, works in progress, and works to be undertaken — and prepare a color-coded digital map reflecting these categories.

The East City Corporation has provisionally demarcated eight divisions, 24 sub-divisions, and 50 wards. Officials, including Executive Engineers, Assistant Executive Engineers, and Assistant Engineers, were instructed to maintain complete and updated data for their respective jurisdictions within one week.

He also directed that the progress of pothole repair works recorded on platforms such as BTP Astram, Road Pothole Grievance, and Sahaaya App be updated regularly, with details of completed works uploaded to the Astram App. Sudhakar announced that the Commissioner, Additional Commissioners, and Chief Engineers will soon conduct daily ward-level inspections to monitor developmental works and issue on-ground instructions. Under the reorganised Engineering Department, arterial roads, sub-arterial roads, major roads, lakes, and stormwater drains will be overseen by Executive Engineers at the divisional level. To enhance efficiency and technical clarity, a Workshop will soon be organised for all engineers. The meeting reviewed the speed, quality, and coordination of developmental works, with the Additional Commissioner stressing teamwork and inter-departmental cooperation for timely project execution.

> The Additional Commissioner has ordered stringent action against unauthorised constructions within corporation limits. Each division must demolish at least one unauthorised structure per week, ensuring a total of eight demolitions across all divisions, strictly in line with rules and procedures.

Chief Engineers Lokesh and Krishnamurthy, along with all Executive and Assistant Executive Engineers from respective divisions, attended the meeting.

DCM Proposes Permanent K'taka Water Commission

BENGALURU

The proposed body will review irrigation patterns and promote water economy using modern technology.

Deputy Chief Minister and Water Resources Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Monday announced that the State government plans to establish a permanent Karnataka State Water Commission (SWC) on the lines of the Central Water Commission (CWC) to oversee, regulate, and manage water resources more efficiently.

The proposed regulatory body, to be composed of irrigation experts, engineers, and government officials, will prepare a 50-year water security roadmap for the State. "A permanent water commission is essential to ensure accountability in water use, monitoring of irrigation projects, and advising the government on inter-State river disputes and other issues linked to agriculture, water, and the environment," Shivakumar said at a media interaction ahead of the release of his book Neerina Hejje (Footprints of Water).

He pointed out that some existing water-related bodies have become ineffective, functioning merely as rehabilitation centres for retired officials and judicial members. The proposed SWC, he said, would combine the roles of monitoring, advisory, and regulatory authority to bring transparency and efficiency to water management.

Shivakumar, who has extensively researched and documented the history of inter-State and international river water disputes in his upcoming book, said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will release it on Wednesday.

He added that the government would soon introduce a bill in the Legislative Assembly to formally establish the SWC, which will be tasked with preparing reports on ensuring long-term water availability in urban centres, including Bengaluru.

Wedding Dreams Shattered: Techie Loses ₹ 30 Lakh in Matrimonial Site Fraud

BENGALURU

A 34-year-old software engineer from Banaswadi lost over ₹30 lakh after being duped by cyber fraudsters posing as an NRI groom on a matrimonial website.

According to her complaint, on October 28, the victim received a request from a profile named Jayesh, who introduced himself as an Anglo-Indian based in Canada, claiming his family lived in the United Kingdom. He said he was employed with a reputed multinational firm and was looking for an Indian bride to settle down in India.

Over the next few days, the two exchanged messages and phone calls. Jayesh even spoke about visiting India soon to meet her family and discuss marriage. Trusting his words, the woman deleted her matrimonial account after he assured her of commitment.

Jayesh later claimed he had dispatched his luggage and gifts for her through an international logistics company named Inter Air Delivery Centre. Soon after, she received calls from people posing as the firm's agents, who told her that the parcel had arrived in India.

They asked her to pay ₹37,000 as customs clearance fees. After she transferred the amount, the callers informed her that the parcel contained $1 lakh in cash and a $2 lakh cheque. Using this as a pretext, the fraudsters demanded additional payments for tax, insurance, IMF clearance, and currency conversion, making her transfer a total of ₹30.2 lakh between September 29 and October 28.

Each time she raised concerns, Jayesh urged her to pay, saying the company needed payment in Indian currency and he would reimburse her on arrival. When the fraudsters demanded another ₹14.7 lakh, she became suspicious and realised she had been duped.

Jayesh had consistently refused video calls, shared only photographs, and deleted his profile after she confronted him. The victim has submitted chat logs, call records, and bank transaction details to the police, who are now attempting to freeze the fraudsters' accounts and trace the culprits.

Night Dumpers Turn Ramaiah Road Filthy

BENGALURU

Residents of MS Ramaiah Layout on Tumakuru Road are fuming over recurring garbage problems on 1st Main Road — not due to civic neglect, but because of a few irresponsible residents who dump waste at night. Most residents clarified that pourakarmikas are doing their jobs efficiently. However, the situation remains grim as garbage piles up overnight, turning the stretch into an eyesore and causing inconvenience to pedestrians. A homemaker, preferring anonymity, said, "I find no fault with pourakarmikas. They clear garbage regularly, but a few residents keep throwing waste on the road at night."

Resident Anantha Ramaiah blamed the issue on vacant sites under litigation, which have become informal dumping grounds. "Some lazy residents find these open plots convenient to discard waste. Shockingly, a few even toss garbage from their balconies," he said, urging the Bengaluru West City Corporation (BWCC) to penalize offenders. Chandre Gowda, Health Inspector of Bagalagunte ward, confirmed that garbage is cleared regularly but admitted to persistent challenges. "Some residents set dry waste on fire and dump all kinds of trash, including old mattresses. We will take strict measures to keep the stretch clean," he assured.

Residents have urged the BWCC to install CCTV cameras, conduct awareness campaigns, and enforce fines to discourage night-time dumping, emphasizing that maintaining cleanliness requires collective responsibility and civic discipline from the community.

Wild Elephants Deaths: Minister Eshwar Khandre Orders Probe

BENGALURU

Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has expressed deep grief over the death of two wild elephants due to electrocution in Sulegaali village near Khanapur in Belagavi district on Sunday and has ordered a detailed investigation.

Though elephants had been roaming in the area for several days, there are allegations that forest officials failed to take timely preventive measures, leading to the tragedy. The Minister directed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden to conduct a thorough inquiry and submit a report within five days, along with recommendations for disciplinary action, if necessary. Khandre also instructed officials to file a legal case against those responsible for illegally electrifying fences that led to the elephants' deaths. He emphasized that strict action will be taken to prevent such negligence in future and protect Karnataka's wildlife.

Volunteers Give Garbage Hotspot Complete Makeover

BENGALURU

A once-neglected black spot filled with garbage, debris, and broken furniture on Annasandrapalya Main Road in HAL has been transformed into a vibrant and meaningful public space. Once avoided by pedestrians due to its stench, the spot now stands as a symbol of community transformation and Kannada pride.

On Kannada Rajyotsava, volunteers from Youth for Parivarthan, supported by the Greater Bengaluru Authority and Indian Navy officers, joined hands to reclaim and rejuvenate the area. They cleared heaps of waste, cleaned every corner, and painted colourful murals depicting Karnataka's rich culture, language, and heritage. The initiative was more than just a beautification effort — it was a heartfelt tribute to the legends of Karnataka. Each mural and brushstroke celebrates the state's great contributors, reflecting unity, creativity, and civic pride.

What was once an eyesore now stands as a living canvas of volunteerism and Rajyotsava spirit, inspiring citizens across Bengaluru to take ownership of their surroundings.

PIGEON PROBLEM

Lung Problems Rise Due to Surge in Pigeon Population, Says MLA Suresh Kumar

BENGALURU

Former Minister and Rajajinagar BJP MLA Suresh Kumar has raised alarm over the unchecked increase in the pigeon population across Bengaluru, citing a link between the growing number of birds and rising cases of lung-related ailments among residents.

In a letter to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Kumar urged officials to take appropriate measures to curb the menace without harming public sentiment. He noted that while many donors generously provide grains to pigeons in parks and open spaces, this has unintentionally led to overbreeding and health hazards.

"Several medical reports published in the media have highlighted how the excessive pigeon population is causing respiratory issues among citizens. People who walk and exercise in parks have personally approached me expressing their concerns," Kumar wrote.

He requested the civic body to make a policy-level decision to manage the issue in a humane and health-conscious manner, ensuring that citizens' well-being remains the priority. Medical experts have long warned that pigeon droppings contain harmful microorganisms, including fungi such as Cryptococcus and Histoplasma, and several bacteria and viruses. These pathogens contaminate soil, water, and air, especially when dried droppings turn into dust that can be inhaled.

Doctors say individuals with weakened immune systems, children, and senior citizens are at particular risk of developing allergies, respiratory infections, and even meningitis due to prolonged exposure.

Kumar cited a study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which confirmed that pigeons can spread diseases and cause serious health complications in humans. He urged the BBMP to act swiftly and decisively, emphasizing that citizens' health must not be compromised by uncontrolled pigeon feeding and breeding.

Inhumane Act: Dog Killed After Being Knocked to the Ground

BENGALURU

A shocking case of animal cruelty has emerged from Bagalur police station limits, where a domestic worker brutally killed her employer's pet dog. The incident occurred on October 31 but came to light later when CCTV footage was reviewed. According to police, the accused, Pushpalatha, who was employed to care for the pet dog named Goofy, was caught on CCTV throwing the dog to the ground inside an elevator and strangling it with a belt. The owner, Rashi Poojary, had initially been told by the maid that the dog had died suddenly. However, upon reviewing the CCTV footage, the horrifying act was revealed. The video quickly spread on social media, sparking widespread outrage among animal lovers and activists across the city.

DK Shivakumar Announces Three-Day Leave for Bihari Voters to Cast Ballots

BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar has announced a three-day holiday for residents of Bihar currently living in Karnataka so they can travel home and vote in the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections. Speaking at a gathering of the Bangalore Residents' Association from Bihar at Coffee Board Layout in Byatarayanapura, Shivakumar said the election would decide the future direction of the state. "Go home and vote for the Mahagathbandhan for Bihar's overall development," he urged. "Every single vote counts. Don't waste your vote — vote for Bihar's future."

Shivakumar said he was unconcerned about political titles, adding, "If the Mahagathbandhan comes to power, that itself is the biggest honour for me." He claimed that Nitish Kumar's influence in Bihar is waning, calling him a leader nearing the end of his political career.

He also reiterated Rahul Gandhi's appeal to make Tejashwi Yadav the next Chief Minister of Bihar, saying, "Tejashwi's leadership can bring real progress to the state." Shivakumar urged Biharis to strengthen both Tejashwi and Rahul Gandhi, asserting that "the Nehru family has made immense contributions to the nation, and it's time to give them renewed strength."

The Deputy Chief Minister's announcement has sparked interest among migrant workers from Bihar in Bengaluru, many of whom welcomed the move as a chance to exercise their democratic right.

QUICK READ

Relatives Quarrel Over Property, Defy Court Order

Bengaluru

A long-standing property dispute turned violent in Kattugollahalli under Avalahalli police station limits in Bengaluru East taluk, after two brothers clashed over ownership of agricultural land in Survey No. 20. One of the brothers alleged that the other had encroached upon the land and built a compound wall. The property case is already pending in court, which had issued an order prohibiting any construction. However, the compound was reportedly built in defiance of the order, triggering a heated quarrel between the brothers.

Man Flashes Woman During Morning Walk in Indiranagar

Bengaluru

An unidentified man allegedly flashed a woman in Indiranagar while she was out on a morning walk with her pet dog. The 33-year-old complainant from Domlur told police the incident occurred around 11.57 am when the man, dressed in shorts, called out "Madam" and exposed himself before attempting to masturbate. Shocked and frightened, the woman quickly walked away and later informed her siblings, who lodged a complaint with Indiranagar police. A senior officer said efforts are on to identify the suspect, though the area lacks CCTV coverage.

Biker Drags Horse Through Busy Road, Video Sparks Outrage

Bengaluru

A disturbing video showing a biker dragging a horse tied to his scooter through a busy Bengaluru road has gone viral on social media platform X. In the clip, the terrified horse is seen struggling to keep pace with the moving scooter as traffic whizzes by. Shockingly, the biker, riding without a helmet, appears to be recording the act on his phone. The incident has drawn widespread condemnation online, with animal lovers demanding strict action against the offender for cruelty.

Mass Intensive Cleanliness Drive to be Held on November 8

Public cooperation for such programmes is essential to become more effective in maintaining cleanliness

BENGALURU

In an effort to make the city cleaner and raise awareness about hygiene in public spaces, the Bengaluru North City Corporation has announced a Mass Intensive Cleanliness Drive to be held on November 8. The initiative, led by Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar, aims to bring together government agencies, civic staff, and residents in a coordinated cleanliness effort.

The drive will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., covering a stretch of 93.9 km across the Hebbal, Pulakeshinagar, Sarvagnanagar, Yelahanka, Byatarayanapura, Dasarahalli, and Rajarajeshwari Nagar divisions. The operation will focus on clearing waste, silt, debris, and fallen tree branches, as well as desilting and cleaning stormwater drains.

Multiple departments — including Solid Waste Management, Engineering, Road Infrastructure (RI), Health, Traffic Police, Horticulture, Forest, and Lake Management — will participate alongside local organizations and civic groups.

To promote enthusiasm and accountability among officials, the City Corporation will present awards to the top three Assembly Constituencies that perform best during the drive.

- First Prize: ₹1 lakh
- Second Prize: ₹50,000
- Third Prize: ₹25,000

Additionally, consolation prizes will be distributed at the division level.

Evaluations will be conducted by NGOs and civic organizations. The Commissioner noted that City Corporation staff work tirelessly every day to maintain cleanliness across Bengaluru. As part of ongoing civic engagement, a "Phone-In" programme is held every Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., where public complaints are addressed directly. Grievances received via WhatsApp, the Sahaaya App, and the central helpline are being resolved within 24 to 48 hours.

BJP Demands Full Disclosure on Tunnel Road Project

BENGALURU

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday urged the Congress-led Karnataka government to disclose full details of the proposed Bengaluru tunnel road project, questioning its feasibility and financial viability.

Leader of the Opposition R. Ashoka accused the government of withholding key information while announcing grand infrastructure plans without resolving basic civic issues. "The Congress government hasn't shared details about the tunnel project. They must first answer the public," he said, claiming that approvals from 124 departments were needed. Ashoka added that before undertaking such an ambitious project, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar should address the city's potholes, waste management, and environmental problems.He stressed that the BJP supports genuine development but demanded transparency and prioritization of essential services. "Landmarks like Lalbagh and Kempegowda Tower must not be harmed. The government should respond to the people, not me — I'm voicing public concerns," he said. Ashoka also alleged confusion within the Congress, asserting that internal conflicts hinder governance. "We want progress for the people, regardless of who is in power," he added.

Pregnant stray dog rescued after brutal abuse; police launch investigation

BENGALURU

A distressing case of animal cruelty has surfaced from the Kodathi area near Sarjapur Road, where a pregnant stray dog was found severely injured.

Animal welfare activist Ditipriya filed a complaint at Varthur Police Station, alleging that four individuals had subjected the dog to brutal abuse. The case has since been transferred to the Bellandur Police for further investigation. Police said the incident reportedly took place on October 14.

The injured dog was rescued, given medical attention, and has since delivered three healthy puppies under the care of veterinarians. A sample has been sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) to assist in confirming the nature of the assault.

Following preliminary inquiry, police are tracing suspects based on witness information. Animal welfare organizations have condemned the incident and called for stringent action under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

Byadarahalli Residents Seek End to Goonda Menace

BENGALURU

The recurring menace of street hooliganism has once again shattered the peace in Byadarahalli under Yeshwanthpur limits, leaving residents anxious and frustrated. The latest incident involved a gang of miscreants vandalizing vehicles and harassing locals late at night, reigniting fears of lawlessness in the area.

According to residents, a group of drunken youths—barely in their teens—went on a rampage near the Jodimuneshwara Temple under Byadarahalli police station limits. They pelted stones at vehicles parked along the roadside, damaging several belonging to daily wage earners and cab drivers. Before this, they reportedly attacked a cab driver and created chaos near a nearby tea stall.

Locals said this is not an isolated incident. Just last month, more than 20 vehicles were vandalized in the same locality, yet no lasting preventive action has been taken. "Every night, we fear another such attack," said one resident, demanding increased police patrolling and stringent action against the culprits.

When a few residents tried to intervene, the goons allegedly turned their aggression toward them.

However, locals managed to catch two of the attackers and handed them over to the police.

The Byadarahalli police have registered a case and launched an investigation. Residents have urged authorities to deploy additional security measures and curb such mischief before it escalates into a bigger threat to public safety.

Bengali domestic worker alleges police assault

BENGALURU

A serious allegation has been raised against Varthur Police in Bengaluru after a 34-year-old woman from West Bengal accused them of physically assaulting her in custody. The woman, identified as Sundari Bibi, claimed she suffered multiple injuries following the incident and is now unable to walk properly. According to the complaint, Bibi, who works as a domestic helper in an apartment under the Varthur Police limits, had gone to collect money from her employer's flat. The house owner, upon noticing her activity through CCTV, reportedly confronted her and handed her over to the police. The victim alleged that she was then beaten up at the station. WB RS member and Chairman of the WB Migrant Workers Welfare Board, Sameer Ul, brought the matter to the attention of the WB CM's Office, which expressed strong concern over the alleged incident.

Doctor Murder Case: Man killed wife to impress lover: Police

BENGALURU

New revelations have emerged in the investigation into the murder of Dr. Kritika Reddy, with police stating that her husband, Mahendra Reddy, killed her to please his lover.

During interrogation, Mahendra reportedly confessed that he murdered Kritika to win back the affection of his girlfriend. According to police sources, soon after committing the crime, he sent a chilling message to his lover saying, "I have killed." Since the woman had blocked him on WhatsApp and on calls, Mahendra allegedly used the payment app PhonePe to send the message.

Police said the accused had been repeatedly trying to contact his lover despite her ignoring him. Investigators believe his obsession and anger led to the murder.

JD(S) Accuses DK Shivakumar of Mortgaging Land for Votes

BENGALURU

A political row has erupted after the Janata Dal (Secular) accused Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar of "mortgaging land to Biharis for votes." The JD(S) criticised Shivakumar's recent statement that the government would soon issue a notification to provide premises for Bihar associations in Karnataka.

In a strongly worded social media post, the JD(S) alleged that the Congress government was compromising the interests of Kannadigas for electoral gains. "Congress leaders, who keep shouting 'our taxes, our rights,' are now handing over Kannadiga land to immigrants for votes. This is hypocrisy at its peak," the post said.

The JD(S) also questioned Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar for their "contradictory stance," recalling their past criticism that people from Bihar were taking jobs meant for locals. "Now the same leaders are wooing non-Kannadiga voters by offering land in Bengaluru to Bihar associations," the post alleged.

DYNASTY POLITICS ALLEGED

Siddaramaiah, Mallikarjun Kharge's Sons Are Super Rulers: Lehar Singh

BENGALURU

BJP Rajya Sabha member Lehar Singh Siroya has accused AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge's son, Priyank Kharge, and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's son, Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah, of acting as "super rulers" in Karnataka, wielding influence beyond their official roles.

In a post shared on 'X', Lehar Singh alleged that Karnataka is being "controlled by two immature sons." He claimed that both leaders are "constantly making controversial statements" and "defying their party's high command." Singh questioned whether their fathers lacked the ability to restrain them or whether the sons were simply voicing what their fathers could not say publicly.

"It is unclear whether Priyank and Yathindra are acting independently or serving as mouthpieces for their fathers," he wrote. Singh further stated that both are "disliked even within their own party" and "tolerated only because their fathers are in power." Once their fathers leave office, their influence will vanish completely, he predicted. Singh particularly targeted Priyank Kharge for his frequent criticism of the RSS and BJP, alleging that his speeches resembled those of Rahul Gandhi, driven by what Singh described as "hate politics." He added that Priyank's attacks were aimed at helping his father, Mallikarjun Kharge, "stay in the good books of the Nehru-Gandhi family" and maintain political relevance in Delhi. Lehar Singh's remarks have sparked fresh political debate over the growing influence of political heirs in Karnataka's Congress leadership.

Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP & LIVELIHOOD
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
KAUSHALYA KARNATAKA
BENGALURU
SKILL SUMMIT
4 - 6 NOVEMBER 2025 | THE LALIT ASHOK
Hosted by
KSDC
Karnataka Skill Development Corporation
In Collaboration with
KSDA
Karnataka Skill Development Authority
Knowledge Partner
Karnataka Digital Economy Mission
Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka
Inauguration Ceremony
4th November 2025,
Evening 5:00 PM
INAUGURATION BY
Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka
IN THE AUGUST PRESENCE OF
Shri D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka
PRESIDED BY
Dr. Sharanaprakash R. Patil
Hon'ble Minister for Skill Development, Entrepreneurship & Livelihood and Medical Education, Government of Karnataka
Dr. Sharanaprakash R. Patil, Hon'ble Minister for Skill Development, Entrepreneurship & Livelihood and Medical Education, Government of Karnataka, and Smt Shivakantamma Naik, Chairperson, Karnataka Skill Development Corporation, at the Curtain Raiser of the Bengaluru Skill Summit 2025.
GUESTS OF HONOUR
The Hon Muhammad Reza Cassam UTEEM
Minister of Labour and Industrial Relations
Republic of Mauritius
Dr. M. B. Patil
Hon'ble Minister for Large & Medium Industries and Infrastructure Development, Government of Karnataka
Shri Priyank Kharge
Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development & Panchayat Raj and Information Technology & Biotechnology, Government of Karnataka
Shri Sharanabasappa Darshanapur
Hon'ble Minister for Small Scale Industries and Public Enterprises, Government of Karnataka
Shri Santosh S. Lad
Hon'ble Minister for Labour, Government of Karnataka
Dr. M. C. Sudhakar
Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, Government of Karnataka
Shri Rizwan Arshad
Hon'ble MLA for Shivajinagar Assembly Constituency
His Excellency Dr. Philipp Ackermann
Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to India
Dr. E. V. Ramana Reddy, IAS (R)
Chairman, Karnataka Skill Development Authority
Shri Ashutosh Gupta
Managing Director
India and Asia Pacific, Coursera
WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR GRACIOUS PRESENCE
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Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka
Smt. Uma Mahadevan, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary cum Development Commissioner, Government of Karnataka
Smt. Shivakantamma (Kanta) Naik
Chairperson, Karnataka Skill Development Corporation and Karnataka Vocational Training & Skill Development Corporation
Shri Manoj Kumar Meena, IAS
Secretary to Government, Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood
Shri Nagaraja N. M., IAS
Managing Director, Karnataka Skill Development Corporation
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QUICK READ

Honey bee attack injures over 30 students in Kodagu

Madikeri

Over 30 students were injured after a swarm of honey bees attacked them at a government primary school in Virajpet, Kodagu district. The incident occurred on Monday morning when students had gathered for their daily prayer and were waiting in line for milk. Suddenly, a swarm of bees from a nearby plantation attacked the children and teachers, causing panic on the school premises. Hearing the children's screams, locals rushed to help, dispersed the bees, and shifted the injured to the Virajpet Government Hospital. Headmistress Annamma was also among the injured and is undergoing treatment. Doctors later confirmed that all students were out of danger. Officials from the education department and local police visited the hospital and reviewed the situation.

Driver escapes unhurt as car falls into canal

Mandya

A car plunged into the VC Canal near B. Yarhalli in Mandya taluk early Monday morning, but the driver narrowly escaped unhurt. The incident occurred around 4:30 a.m. when Krishna, a resident of Kallahalli, was driving a Creta car. Due to the narrow road and absence of side barriers, the vehicle slipped and fell into the canal. Fortunately, Krishna managed to jump out in time, saving himself from drowning. Fire and rescue personnel later lifted the submerged car from the canal. The Mandya Rural Police have registered a case and are investigating the incident. The mishap once again highlights the danger of unprotected roads near canals in the region.

Eliminating inequality is every politician's responsibility: CM

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah underscored that removing social inequality is a fundamental duty of every politician

MYSURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah emphasized that eliminating social inequality is the foremost duty of every politician. He was speaking after unveiling the statue of former Chief Minister Devaraj Urs in the premises of the Mysuru Deputy Commissioner's Office.

Highlighting Urs' visionary leadership, Siddaramaiah said that he was a true champion of the downtrodden and the underprivileged. "Urs opened the doors of the Vidhana Soudha to the most marginalized sections of society. He believed in giving opportunities to those historically denied them," he remarked.

The Chief Minister stated that Urs worked tirelessly to uplift the backward classes and created opportunities that enabled many to join the social and political mainstream. His progressive policies laid the foundation for social justice and inclusive governance in Karnataka.

Siddaramaiah added that inequality was primarily created because education was denied to the majority Shudra community for generations. "Our government is committed to eradicating inequality by providing equal opportunities and promoting social welfare schemes that empower the poor and marginalized," he said.

He underlined that education and talent are not the property of any one section of society — every individual has inherent potential. "Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Valmiki, and Vyasa are shining examples of how talent and intellect emerge from all sections," he added.

Siddaramaiah further reminded that Karnataka got its present name during Devaraj Urs's tenure, and it was his government that celebrated the Golden Jubilee of the renaming, continuing his legacy of social justice and equality.

5 guarantees designed for all communities: Min

MANDYA

Min Cheluvarayaswamy said Cong govt is committed to inclusive welfare, development, and women's empowerment through guarantee schemes which have uplifted millions across State

"Karnataka's Five Guarantee Schemes are not limited to the poor or Dalits but are meant for people from all communities across the state," said Agriculture and District Incharge Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy. He was speaking after inaugurating a workshop and review meeting on the implementation of the Guarantee Schemes at Ambedkar Bhavan in Mandya.

The minister said these schemes were introduced by the state government to uplift the underprivileged and fulfill the vision of Rahul Gandhi. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's commitment to social welfare led to their effective implementation. He dismissed claims that the government had neglected other development works, noting that alongside the Five Guarantees, ₹50 crore has been allocated to each MLA for taluk-level development, and substantial grants were given for the Mysugar factory and the Agricultural University.

He added that Karnataka's Five Guarantee model has inspired other states, and the state now ranks first in per capita income in India. The government remains committed to delivering benefits over the next five years.

H.M. Revanna, Chairman of the State Guarantee Scheme Implementation Authority, said the Congress government has consistently focused on social welfare, providing free electricity, land rights, pensions, and subsidies. Vice Chairman Dinesh Gooligowda highlighted that four of the five guarantees directly benefit women, urging their continued support.

A documentary on the schemes was screened, and beneficiaries like Vijayalakshmi from Srirangapatna were felicitated for community contributions under the Gruhalakshmi scheme.

Golden jubilee of KSPCB to be held on Nov 5

CHITRADURGA

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) will celebrate its Golden Jubilee on November 5 at 2:30 PM at the Government Science College Grounds (Murugharajendra Stadium) in Chitradurga. The event is being jointly organized by the district administrations of Chitradurga and Shivamogga along with KSPCB's regional offices. Several dignitaries and public representatives will attend the grand celebration.

The event marks 50 years since the establishment of the Pollution Control Board. Minister for Planning and Statistics and District In-charge Minister D. Sudhakar will inaugurate the programme. Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre and School Education Minister S. Madhu Bangarappa will attend as chief guests.

KSPCB Chairman P.M. Narendraswamy, MLAs B.G. Govindappa, B.K. Sangameshwar, T. Raghumurthy, and Gopalakrishna Belur will also be present. The event will be presided over by Chitradurga MLA K.C. Veerendra (Pappi), with MPs Govind Karjol and B.Y. Raghavendra as special invitees.

A host of MLAs, MLCs, and chairpersons of various state boards and corporations—including Dr. B. Yogesh Babu, Pallavi G., and G.S. Manjunath—along with senior officials from Chitradurga and Shivamogga districts, will participate in the milestone celebration.

15 fall ill after consuming spurious liquor in Charlopalli

TUMAKURU

A case of spurious liquor consumption has left 15 people ill in Charlopalli village, located on the Karnataka-Andhra border in Tumakuru district. The incident, which occurred two days ago, came to light late on Sunday.

According to reports, ten residents from Teriyuru and Chikkadalavatta villages in Madhugiri taluk of Tumakuru and five from Chauluru village in Andhra Pradesh fell ill after consuming the illicit liquor. The victims began experiencing severe symptoms, prompting their immediate hospitalization.

Among them, Nagaraju and Ningakka were admitted to Hindupur Hospital in Andhra Pradesh, while Marappa, Dasappa, Chikkanarasimhaiah, and T. Nagaraju from Teriyuru village were shifted to NIMHANS Hospital in Bengaluru for advanced treatment. The remaining victims received first aid and were discharged after recovery.

Following the incident, Kodigenahalli police and Andhra Pradesh police jointly visited the village and conducted a detailed investigation into the source of the spurious liquor. Authorities are also verifying whether the liquor was locally brewed or smuggled across the border.

The case has raised serious concerns about the circulation of illegal alcohol in border areas and the need for stricter vigilance.

Youth ends life after false allegation by minor girl

MYSURU

A 27-year-old man from Kudakoor in Periyapatna taluk ended his life after allegedly being falsely accused by a minor schoolgirl who was found pregnant. The deceased, identified as Ramu, reportedly sent a WhatsApp voice note before taking the extreme step, stating that he was being wrongly blamed for the girl's condition.

In the message, Ramu said that the girl had accused him despite having no relationship with her. He mentioned that he had only spoken to her casually, but the school authorities and others had started pointing fingers at him. Distressed by the false allegation, he claimed that the real culprit was the school's physical education teacher.

Ramu said he could no longer bear the humiliation and that the case was being hushed up to protect the school's reputation. On October 31, he sent the voice note and went missing. After an extensive search, his body was later found in the Tunga Canal.

The tragic incident has shocked the local community. Police have registered a case and begun an investigation into the circumstances leading to Ramu's death and the allegations mentioned in his final message.

Patel's birth anniversary to be marked with 'Ekata Walk' on Nov 12

CHITRADURGA

To mark the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and promote the message of unity, a grand event titled "Sardar@150 Ekata Walk" will be organized on November 12 at 8 a.m. The unity walk will start from Chandravalli playground on Holalkere Road and culminate at Challakere Gate. Deputy Commissioner T. Venkatesh announced the event and directed officials to ensure smooth arrangements and effective coordination for its success.

During a preparatory meeting held at the DC's office, Venkatesh instructed departments to ensure proper traffic and crowd management throughout the route. The Police Department was asked to regulate vehicle movement and set up barricades where required, while the City Municipality was directed to arrange drinking water, garbage vehicles, and maintain cleanliness.

The rally aims to bring together citizens to celebrate national unity and harmony, reflecting Sardar Patel's vision of an integrated India. Volunteers from Mera Yuva Bharat, NCC cadets, NSS members, sportspersons, and students from schools and colleges across Chitradurga are expected to participate enthusiastically.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner B.T. Kumaraswamy, Assistant Commissioner Mehbub Jilani Khureshi, Zilla Panchayat Deputy Secretary Dr. Rangaswamy, and representatives from various departments, who reviewed the final preparations for the event.

Preparatory meeting held ahead of PM's visit

UDUPI

A preparatory meeting was held at the Geeta Mandira of Sri Krishna Matha, Udupi, ahead of the "Lakshakantha Gita" event scheduled for November 28 and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposed visit. The meeting included district officials, police authorities, and public representatives. Puthige Seer Sri Sugunendra Teertha Swamiji, presiding over the meeting, said it was an honour that Narendra Modi, who visited during his earlier Paryaya as Gujarat's Chief Minister, is returning now as the Prime Minister. He emphasized that the event should reflect Udupi's rich culture and hospitality.

Legal adoption awareness drive marks international adoption month

CHIKKABALLAPUR

As part of International Adoption Month, the District Child Protection Unit has emphasized that all adoptions must be carried out strictly in accordance with the law. Illegal or informal adoptions—such as buying, selling, or exchanging children—are criminal offences under Section 81 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, punishable with imprisonment up to three years and a fine of up to ₹1 lakh. The unit clarified that only registered adoption agencies are authorized to facilitate the process, and all documentation should be completed through the official website https://missionvatsalya.wcd.gov.in/login. Since 2019-20, a total of 51 children have been legally adopted from Chikkaballapur district, including five through international adoptions in Italy, Canada, and the United States.

Officials urged citizens not to engage in unregulated adoptions or place children in unauthorized homes or orphanages. Instead, individuals interested in adoption or reporting child-related concerns should contact the District Child Protection Unit, Chikkaballapur, at 08156-277113, or the Specialized Adoption Agency (KVT Trust) at 08156-274427. The awareness initiative aims to ensure every child's right to a safe, legal, and loving home.

STEEL INDIA REWARDS

Steel India honors farmers with innovative agri initiatives

TUMAKURU

A national-level "Scratch and Win" prize distribution ceremony for farmers was organized by Steel India and Sriranganatha Agri Mart at Veerashaiva Kalyana Mantapa, Vinayaka Nagar, J.C. Road, Tumakuru, on Saturday, November 1. The event also marked the celebration of Kannada Rajyotsava, honouring the contributions of Karnataka's farming community.

Speaking at the event, Raghavendra P.M., Sales Director of Steel India, said the company is committed to revolutionizing agricultural machinery and empowering farmers with strong and durable tools. He emphasized that Steel India's innovative products have built farmers' trust and made agriculture more efficient. The "Scratch and Win" campaign has been extended till November 30, offering farmers the chance to win exciting prizes on selected products like electric, battery-operated, and MH weeders.

Sanjay Verma, Head of South Zone Operations, said that the program coinciding with Kannada Rajyotsava highlights Steel India's dedication to supporting farmers through global-standard agricultural machinery. The collaboration with Sriranganatha Agri Mart aims to make modern tools accessible to farmers across Karnataka.

Grand Prize winner Byatarangayya expressed his happiness on winning prizes such as an electric scooter, a Steel MH-710 power weeder, and an Ola scooter. He lauded both companies for their valuable service in promoting modern agriculture.

Sriranganatha Agri House owner Shashidhar B.R. added that their partnership reflects a commitment to providing farmers with top-quality equipment. The event was attended by State Head Sharath Shetty, Dayanand, and farmers from Tumakuru and neighbouring districts.

₹13 cr stadium devpt fulfills public dream: Muniyappa

Minister K.H. Muniyappa inaugurated a ₹13 crore sports complex project and launched an animal vaccination drive in Devanahalli

BENGALURU RURAL

Fulfilling a long-cherished dream of Devanahalli residents, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs and Bengaluru Rural District In-charge K.H. Muniyappa announced that the town's sports stadium would soon be developed at an estimated cost of ₹13 crore. The project will include the construction of basketball, volleyball, and kabaddi courts, a walking path, and other essential public amenities aimed at promoting sports and healthy living.

Speaking after laying the foundation stone for the works organized by the District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, and the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, Muniyappa said the long-standing demand of the people was finally being realized. He instructed officials to complete the project within 11 months, ensuring high-quality construction and proper infrastructure for all sports enthusiasts. The Minister added that the walking path would serve as a space for citizens to enjoy morning walks and encourage youth participation in sports activities.

Muniyappa also inaugurated the eighth round of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) vaccination drive for cattle in the district. The campaign, which will run from November 3 to December 2, aims to prevent the spread of FMD and protect livestock health. He appealed to farmers to get their cattle vaccinated promptly and emphasized that regular preventive measures would help control the disease while improving milk and livestock production.

During the program, 50 beneficiaries received fodder-cutting machines from the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services. The event saw participation from BIAL Chairman Shantakumar, Devanahalli Taluk Implementation Authority Chairman C. Jagannath, Municipal President Munikrishna, Deputy Commissioner A.B. Basavaraju, ZP CEO Dr. K.N. Anuradha, and other senior officials and citizens.

'Karmik Grama' to boost rural governance and devpt

CHIKKABALLAPUR

ZP CEO Dr. V. Naveen Bhat announced that under the "Karmik Grama" initiative, all Gram Panchayats are implementing e-attendance and digital documentation systems to enhance rural administration and ensure transparent, efficient service delivery.

As part of the Chief Minister's 2025–26 Budget announcement under clause 272(IV), the government has launched the 'Karmik Grama' programme aimed at strengthening the performance of Gram Panchayats and improving the delivery of essential services to rural citizens.

Zilla Panchayat CEO Dr. V. Naveen Bhat stated that the programme seeks to enhance administrative efficiency and ensure active participation of Gram Panchayats through a district and taluk-level evaluation system. Panchayat Development Officers and implementing officials will review activities and recommend measures for progress.

A circular issued on October 29, 2025, by the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department directed the immediate implementation of the programme. A review meeting on October 30 further finalized technical and administrative guidelines for execution.

Under the initiative, Gram Panchayats will be ranked and supported in areas such as infrastructure development, sanitation, education, healthcare, skill training, solid waste management, rural employment, and women empowerment. Other focus areas include nutrition, public service delivery, housing, drinking water, and sustainable agriculture.

Officials are required to identify two Gram Panchayats per taluk from the lower-performing category, as listed in the Gram Panchayat Performance Ranking Report, for focused improvement under 'Karmik Grama'. The selected Panchayats will receive special monitoring and assistance to transform them into model rural governance units, reflecting the programme's core goal of empowering self-sufficient villages.

Road devpt work launched by CMC Prez K. Sheshadri

RAMANAGARA

City Municipal Council (CMC) President K. Sheshadri (Shashi) inaugurated the road development work in front of Sri Anjaneyaswamy Temple at Agrahara, Ramanagara, on Monday. The 180-meter stretch will be developed at a cost of ₹19 lakh, he announced. Speaking after the groundbreaking ceremony, Sheshadri said that several road projects had already been undertaken under various schemes, but the stretch on Chhatra Street remained incomplete. The area houses three major temples — Sri Rama, Sri Anjaneyaswamy, and Sri Raghavendraswamy — and devotees, as well as local residents, had been facing significant difficulties due to the poor road condition. Responding to repeated appeals from the public, the CMC has now sanctioned funds to develop the road, he said.

Sheshadri assured that the contractor has been instructed to maintain high-quality standards during construction. He further expressed concern about the growing problem of littering on city roads, noting that even educated citizens are carelessly dumping waste. Awareness campaigns are being conducted in schools, colleges, and among the public to promote cleanliness, he added. He also stated that, similar to measures taken in the BBMP limits, steps are being considered to impose penalties on those who dump garbage irresponsibly within the municipal area. CMC Vice President Ayesha Bhanu, members Mahalaxmi Gooligowda, Somasekhar (Mani), Ajmat, and other officials, including AE Vishwanath and Engineer Pavitra, were present at the event.

Crimes against women in Karnataka surge by 40% in 2 years: NCRB report

BENGALURU

According to the latest data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), crimes against women in Karnataka have increased by nearly 40% between 2021 and 2023. In 2023 alone, the state registered 20,336 cases under various categories, including assault with intent to outrage modesty, dowry-related harassment, cruelty by husband or relatives, and abduction.

Police officials and women's rights activists say the rise may not necessarily indicate a surge in violence but rather an improvement in awareness and reporting. "More women are coming forward to file complaints because of growing confidence and support systems. We ensure immediate action once a case is reported," said a senior police officer.

However, the judicial backlog remains a serious concern. Around 72,000 cases related to crimes against women are pending trial across Karnataka courts, with nearly 16,000 new cases added in 2023 alone. Alarmingly, data shows that of the cases disposed of last year, about 92% ended in acquittals, highlighting loopholes in investigation and prosecution.

Women's rights activists stress that the solution lies in stronger legal implementation and accountability at all levels. "Investigating officers often fail to gather vital evidence, and government prosecutors lack commitment, which leads to acquittals.

Land encroachment in Anekal sparks tension

ANEKAL

A shocking attempt to illegally seize land belonging to Dalit farmers has been reported in Avalahalli village under the Huskur Gram Panchayat limits of Anekal taluk, on Bengaluru's outskirts. The land, valued in crores, has allegedly become the target of a forceful encroachment plot.

According to sources, a man named Krishnappa from Avalahalli has accused individuals — including Chetan Reddy of Kodathi, Balaji, and former Dommasandra president Naresh — of bringing over 100 rowdies to erect a compound wall around farmland that has been under the family's possession for over 40 years. The disputed land, spread across Survey Nos. 10/1, 10/2, 10/3, and 10/4 (1 acre 29 guntas), originally belonged to a man named Guddappa, whose sons — Maddurappa, Ellappa, and Subbappa — have been cultivating ragi there for decades. The land was divided among them in 1990 through a gram panchayat partition. However, in recent years, a family dispute has escalated after relatives allegedly provided false information in court to claim ownership. As legal cases are pending before the Anekal court and the High Court, Krishnappa, son of Subbappa, has accused the rival group of harassment and urged authorities to ensure justice for his family.

Leprosy is curable, no need to fear: Dr. G.P. Renu Prasad

CHITRADURGA

Leprosy is not a curse or a result of sin but a slow-spreading infectious disease caused by the Mycobacterium leprae bacteria, said District Health Officer Dr. G.P. Renu Prasad. Flagging off a leprosy awareness rally at the Buddanagar Health Centre under the National Health Mission, he emphasized that the disease has a definite and effective cure and that there is no reason to fear or stigmatize those affected.

Dr. Prasad explained that symptoms such as pale or copper-colored patches on the skin without sensation, numbness in hands and feet, or loss of temperature sensitivity could indicate leprosy. If ignored, the disease could lead to deformities.

He urged people to voluntarily approach government hospitals for diagnosis. Once detected, free medication is provided at the patient's doorstep, and hospitalization is not required.

With proper treatment for six months to one year, leprosy can be completely cured. He appealed to everyone to help make India leprosy-free.

Program Officer Dr. G.O. Nagaraj stated that the Leprosy Case Detection Campaign will be conducted from November 3 to 19 in 179 villages and three urban areas of Chitradurga district, covering a population of 2,97,445 and 67,535 households. A total of 235 field teams and 23 supervisors have been appointed.

The rally began from Buddanagar Health Centre and passed through major city routes before concluding near Onake Obavva Stadium. Participants raised slogans like "Leprosy is neither a curse nor hereditary" and "Join hands to eradicate leprosy."

The event saw participation from medical officers, ASHA workers, health inspectors, and volunteers from various departments.

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CHANGE OF NAME
I SOMASHEKAR K S/O Krishnaiah T R/O # 653, Kengunte, Janatha Revinew Layout, Near Sanford College, Mallathahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560056, have changed the name of my minor son JEEVAN aged 15 years and he shall hereafter be known as PRITHVI S.

CHANGE OF NAME
I JAYALAKSHMAMMA W/O VENKATASWAMAIAH H R, R/O Holavanahalli, Holavanahalli Hobli Koratagere Taluk, Koratagere, Tumakuru, Karnataka - 572121, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as LAKSHMI DEVAMMA.

CHANGE OF NAME
I RAMAKRISHNA BELMAN VENKATESH TANTRI S/OVENKATESH TANTRI, R/O Flat #304, 7th Cross, SairamResidency, Kathriguppe, BSK 3rd stage, Bangalore- 560085, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RAMAKRISHNA TANTRI B V.

CHANGE OF NAME
I K SENBAGAM W/O Kandswamy, R/O No. 15 Fourth Floor, 3rd Cross, Vijaya Bharthi School, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, R T Nagar, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560032, have changed the name of my minor daughter INDUMADI aged 14 years and she shall hereafter be known as SHREE INDU K.

CHANGE OF NAME
I MANJUNATHA T S/O THIMMARAJAPPA R/O Near Bustand Konagavalli, Shimoga, Karnataka - 577416, have changed the name of my minor son SIDDHARTH M aged 8 years and he shall hereafter be known as AMOGH DARSHAN A M.

CHANGE OF NAME
I NARENDRA N T S/O THIMMAPPA R/O Nelegowdana Palya, Kadaba HobliGubbi, K.Kallahalli, Tumkur, Karnataka - 572220, have changed the name of my minor daughter PRIYA N aged 14 years and she shall hereafter be known as N RUTVIKA.

CERTIFICATE
I, Mrs. Nagamma (Aadhaar No. 9676 4342 6507), aged about 60 years, wife of Mr. Kamaraju, residing at the above address, residing at the village of Pataganahalli, village of Kolal Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District. I am a farmer and have a land in my name in the village of Pataganahalli (Kyathaganahalli), village of Kolal Hobli, Koratagere Taluk, Tumkur District.
33/5 area 2-02 (two acres two guntes) I have an account deed in my name and we have been doing business on the said land and for the purpose of selling the said land, we have issued a public notification advertisement today. Our lawyer B.V. Hemalatha No.12, 2nd Floor, Bannappa Park Road, 10th Cross, Cubbon Pet, Bangalore-560002, our lawyer is at this address. (Phone No.8310924725) This land survey no.33/5 area 2-02 (two acres two guntes) Chekkubandi East: Road, West: Malleshappa's land, North: Moodupaiah's land, South: Rangashamayya's land, Tumkur district, Koratagere taluk, Kolal hobli, Pathaganahalli village, if there is any legal dispute regarding this land, it should be informed to our lawyer within five days, otherwise it should be informed through law. I have issued this certificate on 30.10.2025.

NAME CHANGE
I, **RIYAZ AHMED NOOR** MOHAMMED, residing at No. o-b, Old No. 5/2, Ground Floor, 1st Main Road, 4th 'D' Cross, Gandhi Nagar, Shampura, K.G Halli, Bengaluru-560045, have changed my name to **RIYAZ AHMED**, vide affidavit dated: 30.10.2025, before Notary N. NAGAPPA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE
I, **TEMSUSANGLA**, residing at No. 1287, 3rd Floor, 3rd Cross, 7th Main, 8th Block, Rajendra Nagar, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560095, have changed my name to **TEMSUSANGLA PHOM**, vide affidavit dated: 31.10.2025, before Notary N. NAGAPPA, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE
I, **KASHIM THYRUVATH KUJAMAD**, resident of Makki Temple Road, Napoklu, Kodagu-571214. Have changed my name to **KASHIM M E**, vide affidavit dated: 01.11.2025, before Notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru.

NAME CHANGE
I, **DILIP KUMAR KRISHNE GOWDA**, S/o Krishne Gowda, resident of No. 4, 1st Main, Byraweshwara Nagara Left Side PO Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru – 560072. Have changed my name to **B K DILIP GOWDA**, vide affidavit dated: 01.11.2025, before Notary MEER HASSAN, Bengaluru.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer, No.1, Building Division, SJP Annexure, Bengaluru, Phone: 080-22255210
No. EE/Bld.1/AE-3/2025-26/51 Date: 31.10.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
The above Department invites Tenders through e-procurement portal of GoK **(http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from eligible Tenderers for **Construction of Dharmika Soudha Building in the premises of Sri Ramanjaneya Swamy Temple at K.R. Circle, Bengaluru, Karnataka.** PWD/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT28650 Approx. value of work: **Rs. 2138.16 lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 21,39,000/-.** (Rs.1,00,000/- through KPP Portal & Rs. 20,39,000.00 through B.G.). Cost of Document: As per KPP Portal. Period of Completion: **18 Months.** Category: **Others.** Last date for downloading Tender through e-procurement portal and submission through online: **01.12.2025 up to 4.30 PM**. Pre-Bid Meeting**: on 14.11.2025 at 11.30 AM** at the above mentioned Office. Date of opening the Tender: as per e-procurement guidelines. Further information and other details can be obtained from the above office or from e-procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/DD-C.P/3558/KSMCA/2025-26

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
SME GANAPATHY (61798), COIMBATORE
41, Shristi Mahal, 8th Street, Tatabad,
Coimbatore - 641 012 , Phone : 0422 -4348846,
Email : sbi.61798@sbi.co.in

The Authorised Officer's Details:
Mr.Ramabalasubramanian.G
Mobile No.95976 76677
Contact Person : Venkatesh R
Mobile No: 98408 87013

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property/ies mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Symbolic possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India being the Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is",** and **"Whatever there is"** basis on **17.11.2025,** for recovery of below mentioned amount with future interest and costs due to the **State Bank of India, SME GANAPATHY (61798), COIMBATORE** from the borrower/s and guarantor/s as below mentioned.

Name & Address of the Borrower & Co-Borrower : M/s Sai Skand Enterprises Private Limited, Door no 273, 2nd Floor, Monalisa, 6th Main 100 Feet Road, Defence Colony, HAL II Stage, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka, 560038, **Guarantor : 1.Mrs. Chellammal.R**, D/o.Mr Ramasamy, No 90/10,No.90/11, D1, VIP Thamarai Nagar, Gandhiji Street 2, Kollampalayam, Erode-638002, **2.Mr.Madhavan Vaiyapuri,** S/o.Vaiyapuri, No.90/10, No.90/11, D1, VIP Thamarai Nagar, Gandhiji Street 2, Kollampalayam, Erode-638002, **3.Mr.Vijai Babu Madhavan**, No.504, First Floor, 3rd Cross, 9th Main,Indira Nagar, HAL 2nd Stage, Bengaluru- 560008, **Corporate Guarantee : 4.M/s.Sundance Estates Private Limited**, Old No.H-60, New No.H-84, Ground Floor, Periyar Nagar, Erode-638001,
Amount outstanding as on **01.11.2025** : **Rs.4,83,40,097/- (Rupees Four Crores Eighty Three Lakhs Forty Thousand and Ninety Seven Only)** plus further interest, costs and charges thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
Property belonging to Mr.Madhavan Vaiyapuri, S/o.Vaiyapuri (Document no.10623/2023 dated 31.07.2023- All that part and parcel of the property in Tirupur Registration District, Avinashi Sub-Registration District, Avinashi Taluk, in Perumanallur Village, the landed properties in SF.No: 304 assessed at Rs. 5.21 measuring an extent of 3.08 acres under Patta No: 1382, the landed property sub divided as SF.No:304/1 in this P.Hec. 0.72 assessed at Rs.3.00 an extent of 1.78 acres of land, in this on the Southern part an extent of 0.40 acres of land is situated within the following **boundaries:** North of -Lands in SF. No: 300 / B, East of -South North Road in SF. No: 318, South of -Property belonged to N.Karupathal & V.Gomathi in SF. No: 304/1, West of -Property belonged to R. Easwaramoorthi in SF.No: 304/2 part. Admeasuring an extent of P.Ac. 0.40 acres of land and its deposit and all usual and common rights in pathway and all appurtenances as per the parental documents and other mamool roads to reach the property. The said property is situated in SF. No: 304/1B at Perumanallur Village within the limits of Perumanallur Village Panchayat.
Latitude, Longitude : 11.220037, 77.358521

Reserve Price : Rs.3,24,00,000/- EMD Amount : Rs.32,40,000/- Bid Multiplier : Rs.25,000/-

Encumbrances known to the Bank if any: Nil. However, the bidders are requested to make their own enquiry.

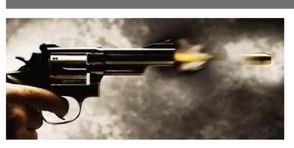
DETAILS OF E-AUCTION SALE :

Date and time of e- Auction : 17.11.2025 (Monday) 11.00 A.M. to 4.00 PM (with unlimited extension of 10 minutes if bidding continues till sale is concluded)
Inspection of properties : 10.11.2025 (Monday) between 11.00 a.m to 4.00 p.m
Last Date for Submission of Proof of EMD : Interested bidder may deposit Pre-Bid EMD with https://baanknet.com/eauction-psb/home before the close of e-Auction
EMD shall be deposited through NEFT to credit of PSB Alliance Baanknet E-WALLET (Refer Point No.13-b in terms & conditions uploaded in the website)

Pre-bid EMD being the 10% of Reserve Price to be transferred by interested bidders in the global EMD wallet of https://baanknet.com/eauction-psb/home by means of funds. Interested bidder may deposit pre-bid EMD with PSB Alliance Baanknet before the close of e-auction. Credit of pre-bid EMD shall be given to the bidder only after receipt of payment in PSB Alliance Baanknet Bank Account and updation of such information in the e-auction website. This may take some time as per banking process and hence bidders, in their own interest are advised to submit the pre-bid EMD amount well in advance to avoid any last minute problem.
The auction will be conducted online only, through the web portal https://baanknet.com/eauction-psb/home. **The bidder registration should be completed by bidder well in advance, before e-auction date as the process takes minimum of two to three working days.**
For detailed terms and conditions of the E-auction sale, steps to be followed by the bidder for registering with e-auction portal and for E-Auction tender document containing online e-auction bid form, Declaration etc, please refer to the link provided in https://baanknet.com/eauction-psb/home

Place : Coimbatore **Authorised Officer**
Date : 01.11.2025 **State Bank of India**

QUICK READ



Firing: 2 more held, hunt on for more suspects

Ahmedabad

The Rajkot police have achieved a breakthrough in the firing incident that took place outside a city hospital. The Special Operations Group (SOG) has arrested two more accused for allegedly assisting in the gunfire exchange linked to the ongoing rivalry between the Penda and Murga gangs. The two arrested accused have been identified as Kamlesh and Bharat Dabhi. The duo was nabbed from Samadhiyala village in Babra in Amreli district, where they had been hiding since the attack. Police have initiated the process to secure their remand for further interrogation.

Untimely rains throw life out of gear across Gujarat

Gandhinagar

Gujarat is witnessing an unusual weather phenomenon marked by a mix of winter chill and unexpected rainfall, creating a dual-season atmosphere across the state. While light to moderate showers have been recorded in several regions, heavy rains have lashed parts of South Gujarat and Saurashtra, causing disruptions in daily life and raising concerns among farmers. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that this spell of unseasonal rain is likely to continue on Monday, urging both citizens and farmers to remain cautious. According to official data, 43 talukas received rainfall in the last 24 hours, with Dwarka recording the highest at 1.38 inches, followed by Bhavnagar (0.87 inches) and Morbi (0.79 inches).

Prez, PM express grief over Telangana bus accident

New Delhi

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives in a tragic bus accident in Telangana's Ranga Reddy district. The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) also announced that an ex gratia amount of Rs 2 lakh from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) would be provided to the next of kin of each deceased. President Murmu took to X and said, The loss of many lives in a bus accident in Ranga Reddy district in Telangana is deeply unfortunate. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members. I pray for the speedy recovery of the injured passengers.

2020 DELHI RIOTS CONSPIRACY CASE

Umar Khalid innocent, free him immediately: Digvijaya

In an FB post, the senior Congress leader described Khalid as a brilliant academic rather than a traitor and a victim of grave injustice

BHOPAL

Senior Congress leader and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh has stirred a major political controversy after publicly declaring that jailed former JNU scholar Umar Khalid is completely innocent and a victim of grave injustice.

In a Facebook post that has gone viral, Singh described Khalid as a brilliant academic rather than a traitor, demanding his immediate release. His remarks come even as Khalid's bail plea in the 2020 Delhi riots conspiracy case remains pending before the Supreme Court. The riots had claimed 53 lives, and Khalid has been incarcerated for over five years under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

Singh made the statement while sharing an article titled Ek Itihaskar Ki Bat, based on Khalid's research work. He reposted the article along with a message that read, Umar Khalid is innocent and is facing a grave injustice. He is a PhD scholar and not a traitor by any standards. He should be released immediately.

In a separate post ending with Jai Siya Ram, Singh accused the BJP and RSS of conspiring to falsely implicate Muslims, alleging that political and communal bias drives such cases. He also highlighted that in a recent Aligarh incident, those who wrote I Love Mohammad on a temple wall were found to be Hindus, using it as an example of misdirected outrage.

The BJP swiftly condemned Singh's remarks, terming them anti-national and accusing the Congress of siding with riot masterminds. A known critic of the RSS, Singh has previously likened its targeting of Muslims to Hitler's persecution of Jews, arguing that India has become an open-air prison for minorities under laws like UAPA. His latest comments have reignited national debates on judicial fairness, minority rights, and the politicisation of criminal cases.

EAM calls for India- Bahrain multi-faceted collab

NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Bahrain's Foreign Minister Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani in New Delhi on Monday ahead of the 5th meeting of the India-Bahrain High Joint Commission (HJC), aimed at deepening cooperation across multiple sectors.

Taking to X, Jaishankar wrote, Pleased to welcome FM Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani of Bahrain to New Delhi. Look forward to productive discussions of the 5th India-Bahrain High Joint Commission. The Bahraini minister arrived in India on Sunday to co-chair the high-level meeting, which serves as the key institutional mechanism for reviewing and advancing the two nations' multi-faceted partnership.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) underscored the importance of the visit, describing it as an opportunity to build on the positive momentum in India-Bahrain relations.

MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal posted on X, Warm welcome to FM Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani of the Kingdom of Bahrain. He will be co-chairing the 5th India-Bahrain High Joint Commission meeting with Jaishankar.

India and Bahrain share a longstanding relationship dating back to 1971, rooted in shared history, cultural ties, and strong economic engagement. The large Indian community in Bahrain continues to play a vital role in the kingdom's economy.

'Language unbecoming of PM': Yadav slams Modi's 'Katta' remark

PATNA

> **What kind of language is this? I have never seen any Prime Minister speak like this. When he goes to Gujarat, he talks about factories, semiconductor units, IT parks, and data centres. When he comes to Bihar, he talks about katta**
>
> —Tejashwi Yadav, RJD leader

A political war of words erupted in Bihar after Prime Minister Narendra Modi alleged that RJD leaders had put a katta (country-made pistol) to the heads of Congress leaders to force them into declaring Tejashwi Yadav as the Grand Alliance's chief ministerial candidate.

Responding sharply, RJD leader Yadav on Monday condemned the Prime Minister's remarks, calling them inappropriate for the dignity of his position.

Speaking to reporters at the Patna airport, Yadav — the chief ministerial face of the Mahagathbandhan — said, the Prime Minister's language is not right. What kind of language is this? I have never seen any Prime Minister speak like this. When he goes to Gujarat, he talks about factories, semiconductor units, IT parks, and data centres. When he comes to Bihar, he talks about katta.

Mocking the BJP, Yadav further said, Maybe the NDA was formed by putting a katta on the heads of their partners in Bihar. It seems the Prime Minister's mentality revolves around such thinking.

The controversy stems from PM Modi's rally in Arrah on Sunday, where he alleged that a closed-door meeting of the Grand Alliance had turned hostile, with RJD leaders putting a katta on the heads of Congress leaders to secure Yadav's nomination as CM face. Congress was not ready to hand over the chief ministerial post, the Prime Minister claimed. In response, Yadav and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) have turned the statement into a political counter-attack, accusing the BJP of resorting to undignified language to distract from real issues. On Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's absence from the Prime Minister's Patna roadshow, Yadav added, Everyone knows the BJP will never make Nitish Kumar the Chief Minister of Bihar after the election.

CM Stalin challenges PM to repeat Bihar remarks in TN

CHENNAI

In a sharp political attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin challenged him to repeat in Tamil Nadu what he said in Bihar, asserting that no amount of false propaganda or political manipulation could stop the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) from forming the next government in the state in 2026. The Chief Minister made the remarks while addressing a gathering at the wedding ceremony of DMK MP A. Mani's family member in Dharmapuri.

CM Stalin had earlier flown from Chennai to Salem in a private aircraft and proceeded to Dharmapuri by car to attend the event and bless the couple. During his address, CM Stalin accused the Election Commission of India of conspiring to implement what he described as a malicious exercise through the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. He alleged that the process was intended to remove genuine voters, particularly those perceived as opposing the BJP, ahead of crucial state elections.

> **'NO AMOUNT OF FALSE PROPAGANDA CAN STOP DMK FROM FORMING NEXT TN GOVT'**

To prevent this anti-democratic move, we convened an all-party meeting and passed a resolution condemning the SIR. The Election Commission's decision to carry out a full revision of the electoral roll just months before the election is part of a well-planned strategy to delete legitimate voters, he said.

CM Stalin added that the same tactic was used earlier in Bihar, where lakhs of genuine voters were allegedly removed from the list. He pointed out that opposition to this controversial process had first emerged from Tamil Nadu, following which Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Bihar's Opposition leader also raised strong objections. Even after a legal case was filed, the Election Commission did not give a satisfactory explanation, CM Stalin noted.

Thackeray accuses Mahayuti govt of making fun of farmers' plight

MUMBAI

Shiv Sena(UBT) Chief Uddhav Thackeray on Monday accused the Mahayuti government of mocking the plight of rain and flood-hit farmers in the state and demanded that the loan waiver be approved immediately. Thackeray made this statement in response to Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis' remark that the decision on farm loan waivers will be made by June 30 next year. He called for the government to implement farm loan waivers without delay, highlighting that this is urgently needed to help farmers affected by the crisis.

He also announced his plans to visit flood-affected Marathwada for four days starting November 5 to assess what aid they have received or have been deprived of from the government's relief package.

At the press conference here, Thackeray said, Farmers have taken to the streets demanding farm loan waiver. The Chief Minister has promised that it will be done by next June. If a loan waiver is going to happen in June next year, should the farmers pay the instalments on the loans till then or not? The Chief Minister made an absurd statement that if a loan waiver is done now, it will benefit the banks. How can the loan waiver done now benefit the banks, and if the loan waiver is done in June next year, it will not benefit the banks?

He also criticised the visit of the Central team to villages hit by natural disasters and asked how the team would inspect the damage caused by heavy rain and floods in Marathwada in just two to three days.

The government announced a relief package. After that, we took out a morcha. Even today, the farmers have the same demand: they should be freed from debt. The Central inspection team will come. This visit is for two to three days.

'Return undertrial prisoners outside jails to UT'

JAMMU

Former J&K chief minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday appeared before the high court in Jammu in connection with a PIL filed by her seeking the return of all undertrials from outside jails to the union territory.

She appealed to the HC to order the return of undertrial prisoners from outside prisons back to the UT. The petition titled Mehbooba Mufti vs Union of India seeks immediate judicial intervention to address what she describes as a violation of the fundamental rights of detainees.

She pleaded that after August 5, 2019, when Article 370 was revoked and J&K downgraded to a UT, many undertrials were shifted to jails in distant states.

KARUR STAMPEDE

CBI summons 306 people for questioning

CHENNAI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has issued summons to 306 individuals for questioning in connection with the tragic stampede that occurred in Karur on September 27, during an event attended by TVK leader and actor Vijay.

The incident, which took place in Veluchamipuram, claimed 41 lives and left more than 60 others injured, sparking widespread public outrage and political scrutiny.

The CBI team, led by officer Praveen Kumar and operating from its temporary camp in Karur, has intensified the probe under the overall supervision of retired Supreme Court judge Justice Ajay Rastogi and Additional Directors General of Police (ADGPs) Sonal Mishra and Sumit Saran.

Investigators have been conducting detailed site inspections and interacting with witnesses to reconstruct the sequence of events leading to the tragedy.

According to officials, the team measured the crowd capacity of the venue to determine whether the organisers had complied with safety norms. They also questioned local traders who run shops near the site to gather eyewitness accounts.

The investigation focuses on lapses in crowd control, event planning, and the role of officials who granted permission for the gathering, sources said.

The CBI, according to sources, questioned Karur City Police Inspector Manivannan, who had issued permission for the event. He was interrogated for over two hours regarding the safety arrangements, communication with higher authorities, and coordination with the organisers.

The CBI has now summoned 306 people for questioning, including family members of those killed and injured, as well as members of the TVK's Thamizhaga Rashtriya Peravai (TRP) who were responsible for mobilising participants.

NORTHEAST ON DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Scindia flags off projects worth Rs 635 cr across Assam

GUWAHATI

Union Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, inaugurated the North Eastern Science and Technology (NEST) Cluster at IIT Guwahati, and laid the foundation stone for transformative development projects worth Rs 635 crore across Assam, an official statement said on Monday.

The new projects, aimed at catalysing growth and connectivity across Assam, include infrastructure development of 65 new secondary school buildings at the cost of Rs 455 crore, upgradation of Chayagaon–Ukium road with an investment of Rs 102.69 crore, and the construction of RCC Bridge at Silonijan-Dhansiri Par Ghat at a cost of Rs 20.59 crore.

The development of industrial estates at Ramphalbil (Kokrajhar) with an investment of Rs 14.40 crore and at Lakhibazar (Baksa) at a cost of Rs 18.40 crore were the other projects for which the foundation stones were laid by the minister.

Highlighting the human impact of the projects, Scindia said, Every brick laid and every classroom built is a promise kept in the service of aspiration. The North Eastern Science and Technology (NEST) Cluster, established with an investment of Rs 22.98 crore, will serve as the nerve centre of the Northeast's innovation ecosystem — transforming local wisdom into global solutions. It will focus on four verticals: Grassroots Innovation; Semiconductors and Artificial Intelligence; Bamboo-Based Technologies; Biodegradable Plastics, according to an official statement.

The NEST cluster will complement DoNER's youth-centric programmes such as NE-SPARKS and Ashtalakshmi Darshan, through which 3,200 students from across India will visit the Northeast, while 800 Northeastern students will undertake scientific exposure visits to ISRO.

The event was attended by senior officials from the Government of Assam, representatives of educational institutions, and members of the scientific and entrepreneurial community. The minister said that Assam, long the gateway to India's eastern renaissance, is now emerging as the innovation and connectivity hub of a 'Viksit Purvottar'.

QUICK READ

Bengal ex-minister Jyotipriya Mallick attacker freed

Kolkata

The police on Monday released the young man who allegedly attacked former West Bengal Minister Jyotipriya Mallick, citing his mental instability, with the youth now undergoing treatment at a city hospital, officials confirmed. The attack on the Trinamool Congress MLA from Habra constituency occurred outside his Salt Lake residence in Kolkata. Police sources confirmed that the attacker, identified as Abhishek Das, is mentally unstable and is currently receiving treatment at NRS Medical College and Hospital. His family, residing in the Habra area of the North 24 Parganas district, has been informed about the matter.

Lankan Navy arrests 35 TN fishermen for crossing boundary

Chennai

In yet another incident highlighting the continuing tensions over fishing rights in the Palk Bay, 35 fishermen from Tamil Nadu were arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy in the early hours of Monday for allegedly crossing the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) and fishing in Sri Lankan waters. According to official sources, the arrests took place near the northern coast of Sri Lanka when naval patrol vessels intercepted three mechanised boats belonging to Indian fishermen. All three boats were seized along with the fishing gear. Of those detained, 31 fishermen are residents of Nagapattinam district and had set sail from Akkaraipettai.

SC issues notice on plea for transparency in political parties' rules

New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Monday issued a notice on a plea seeking directions to the Election Commission of India (ECI) to ensure that every registered political party publishes its Memorandum, Rules, and Regulations on the home page of its official website. The application was filed by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay in the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking direction to the poll body to frame and enforce rules for the registration and regulation of political parties, aimed at promoting secularism, transparency, democracy, and political justice.

'Pappu, Tappu and Appu' Yogi mocks INDIA bloc

The UP CM drew a sarcastic comparison between the Congress, RJD, and SP leadership and Mahatma Gandhi's three symbolic monkeys

DARBHANGA

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday intensified his campaign for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections, launching a sharp attack on the INDIA bloc and mocking its key leaders as Pappu, Tappu and Appu.

Speaking at an election rally in the Kewati Assembly constituency of Darbhanga, he drew a sarcastic comparison between the alliance's leadership and Mahatma Gandhi's three symbolic monkeys.

Mahatma Gandhi had three monkeys one who does not speak lies, one who does not hear wrong, and one who does not see wrong. Similarly, the INDIA bloc has three monkeys, Pappu, Tappu, and Appu. Pappu cannot speak the truth, Tappu cannot see the truth, and Appu cannot hear the truth, Yogi said, targeting the Congress, RJD, and SP leadership.

The UP Chief Minister also accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of speaking against the nation during his foreign visits and criticised the RJD's past governance. Between 1990 and 2005, 70 massacres took place in Bihar during the RJD rule. Naxalism was rampant, and caste-based organisations divided society, he alleged.

Highlighting the development work under the NDA, CM Yogi referred to the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya and the Janki Temple in Sitamarhi as symbols of cultural rejuvenation. He also announced that the Ram–Janki Corridor, connecting Ayodhya and Sitamarhi, was being developed on a war footing.

Earlier, it took 16 hours to travel from Lucknow to Darbhanga; now it takes just 45 minutes. This is the power of a double-engine government, he asserted. Yogi further said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had restored peace and law and order in Bihar and honoured Mithila's cultural identity by establishing the Makhana Board.

Min: India will soon emerge leader in global semiconductor sector

GANDHINAGAR

Union Minister for Information Technology, Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw on Monday said that a focussed campaign has been undertaken for the advancement of electronics and semiconductor sector in the country. Underscoring the importance of electronics and semiconductor manufacturing in nation's development, he said, Dholera will become a major hub for high-tech manufacturing in the near future. Almost all countries across the world are keeping an eye on India and Gujarat's semiconductor sector, and Dholera is being prominently mentioned in the context of the semiconductor industry.

He told this to scribes, after holding a high-level meet in Gandhinagar to review the progress of semiconductor projects in Gujarat. The meeting was attended by Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Deputy CM Harsh Sanghavi, and Science & Technology Minister Arjun Modhwadia.

A detailed presentation was also made in the meeting, on the ongoing state government works related to power, water, logistics, and social infrastructure, as well as rail, road, and air connectivity for semiconductor projects like Tata, Micron, and CG Semicon being established in Dholera and Sanand. Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel said India will soon emerge as a leading nation in the semiconductor sector.

He said that though several efforts were made in the past to initiate semiconductor projects in the country but it was only after PM Modi's consistent endeavours that these vital projects started taking shape on the ground.

He added that India will soon emerge as a global leader in the semiconductor sector and emphasised that an enabling ecosystem was being created in Gujarat to make it the leader in semiconductor manufacturing.

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw voiced confidence about Dholera emerging as a major centre for high-tech manufacturing soon.

He said that the whole world has its eyes on India's emerging semiconductor industry, and Dholera is drawing immense interest from the global fraternity.

> **A focussed campaign has been undertaken for the advancement of electronics and semiconductor sector in the country**
> —Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister for Information Technology, Railways

'There is great enthusiasm among public to welcome the PM, under whose leadership several projects have transformed the state'

State all set to welcome PM Modi: CM Dhami

DEHRADUN

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Monday said that the people of the state are eagerly awaiting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit on November 9, marking the Silver Jubilee of the state's formation.

Reviewing arrangements for the grand rally, CM Dhami stated that there is great enthusiasm among the public to welcome the Prime Minister, under whose leadership several developmental projects have transformed the state.

The Chief Minister also emphasized the BJP government's ongoing campaign against encroachments, calling it a significant step in preserving the sanctity of the Devbhoomi. So far, more than 9,000 acres of land have been freed from encroachments. This is not merely an administrative action but an effort to restore the dignity and discipline of Devbhoomi, Dhami said.

Uttarakhand, carved out of northern Uttar Pradesh on November 9, 2000, became India's 27th state and was officially renamed from Uttaranchal to Uttarakhand in 2007. The creation of the state was the result of decades-long activism by hill residents seeking self-governance, better development opportunities, and the preservation of their unique cultural identity.

Earlier, CM Dhami expressed gratitude to President Droupadi Murmu for her inspiring address in the state Assembly. President Murmu Ji, while appreciating the efforts made for women's empowerment in Uttarakhand, has inspired us to work with complete dedication in the public interest, Dhami posted on X.

During her speech, President Murmu lauded the Uttarakhand Assembly for passing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, saying it aligns with the vision of the Constitution makers under Article 44. She praised the lawmakers for their commitment to equality and progressive governance.

IRF lauds govt's move to install QR code on road projects

NEW DELHI

The International Road Federation (IRF) on Monday lauded the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for its initiative to install QR codes on major road projects.

The IRF called the initiative a significant step towards transparency, participatory governance, and monitoring of construction quality. This forward-thinking measure marks a significant milestone in the nation's journey towards creating a more transparent, accountable, and technology-driven infrastructure management system, the organisation said in a letter to Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari.

QR codes will provide public access to data on road construction and maintenance, enhance contractor accountability, and improve durability and safety throughout the national road network. Gadkari had announced that all national highway projects in India will soon feature QR codes displaying complete project details from contractors and consultants to funding.

The organisation, along with the Intercontinental Consultants and Technocrats Pvt. Ltd, applauded the foresight in ensuring that contractors remain accountable for road maintenance for up to 10 years, which will go a long way in strengthening the culture of responsibility and excellence in the sector.

Toxic haze enveloping Delhi a curse of Kejriwal: Malviya

NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday launched a sharp attack on the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) governments in Punjab and Delhi, accusing them of neglecting farmers' concerns and failing to address the annual menace of stubble burning that chokes the national capital each winter.

Amit Malviya, head of the BJP's National Information and Technology Department, termed the toxic haze enveloping Delhi as the curse of Arvind Kejriwal, alleging that Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann was more focused on pleasing his masters in Delhi than implementing real solutions for farmers.

Every year, the same story repeats — Delhi gasps for breath while the AAP government in Punjab turns a blind eye to stubble burning, Malviya said in a post on X. If only Bhagwant Mann had focused on helping farmers instead of serving his masters or deleting his own videos, Delhi-NCR wouldn't be choking today.

Malviya's remarks come amid escalating concerns over Delhi's deteriorating air quality, which has plunged to severe levels due to a spike in stubble burning incidents across Punjab and Haryana.

The BJP leader also recalled his earlier warnings, issued in September, about the potential impact of farm fires on Delhi's air. Public health and clean air cannot wait. Responsibility lies with the AAP, he wrote.

Meanwhile, the AAP has maintained that Punjab's farm fires contribute minimally to Delhi's pollution, blaming vehicular and industrial emissions instead.

The ongoing political blame game highlights the deepening rift between the BJP and AAP, as Delhi continues to grapple with one of the worst air quality crises in the world.

Garg case: 'SIT to file chargesheet by Dec 8'

GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday announced that the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the death of popular singer and cultural icon Zubeen Garg has been directed to submit its chargesheet by December 8, advancing the earlier deadline by nine days.

Speaking to reporters in Guwahati, CM Sarma said the investigation was in its final stages and that all necessary measures were being taken to ensure timely submission of the report. The chargesheet in Zubeen's case was initially scheduled for December 17, but I have instructed the SIT to complete it by December 8. We are fully prepared from every side, the Chief Minister said. Chief Minister Sarma said that procedural requirements had slowed the process since the incident occurred outside India, necessitating prior approval from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) before the chargesheet could be filed.

Because the case involves events that took place on foreign soil, MHA clearance is mandatory. I met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi yesterday to expedite the approval, he said.

He added that in the next three to four days, the SIT would formally approach the MHA, and the chargesheet was expected to be filed between December 7 and 10.

ICC Women's World Cup: Saluting a new flight, a new horizon

November 2, 2025, will forever be inscribed in golden letters in the history of Indian sports. On that radiant Sunday, the DY Patil Sports Academy in Navi Mumbai became not merely the venue of a World Cup final, but the stage for celebrating India's invincible women's spirit.

Shafali Verma's electrifying 87-run innings was more than just a display of batting brilliance; it was a manifestation of confidence, courage, and composure that helped India lift the ICC Women's World Cup 2025.

Smriti Mandhana, with her elegant cover drives and masterful timing, mesmerized the audience while emerging as India's highest run-scorer. Every member of the team contributed to this astonishing victory which has now become not only a sporting milestone but a symbol of social transformation and women's empowerment. The world today reverberates with the name of the Indian Women's Cricket Team, the new world champions.

This triumph is not just a trophy to be showcased, but a proclamation of womanhood that has long been striving to assert its rightful place. India's daughters have demonstrated that sports are no longer confined to men; the cricket ground has become a platform where women's talent, strategy, patience, and determination shine in their full glory.

'Victory of Indian women'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi rightly said, "This is not merely a cricketing triumph, but the victory of Indian women's power, perseverance, and self-confidence."

Indeed, this achievement is the emblem of a new awakening in Indian womanhood, a consciousness that now seeks not the margin, but the centre of every page. The women of India have written a new chapter in golden ink, proving that they deserve the spotlight as much as any man.

Under the inspired leadership of Harmanpreet Kaur, India claimed the One Day World Cup title for the first time, defeating South Africa by 52 runs and ending a 47-year-long wait. Earlier, under Mithali Raj's captaincy, India had reached the finals in 2005 and 2017, but the trophy had eluded them. This time, fortune favoured courage. Batting first after losing the toss, India set a formidable target of 298 runs, and the South African team fell short, unable to chase it down.

Behind this golden success stands the visionary guidance of ICC president Jay Shah, whose far-sighted leadership brought women's cricket the recognition it truly deserved. His reforms, infrastructure development, and support systems gave the game a new direction. He proved that when leadership is guided by vision and purpose, history changes its course. Throughout the tournament, Indian players showcased extraordinary skill and resilience. Harmanpreet Kaur's tactical genius, Smriti Mandhana's sublime stroke-play, Shafali Verma's youthful aggression, Renuka Thakur and Pooja Vastrakar's precise bowling, and Deepti Sharma's magical spin together created an orchestra of excellence. Their fitness, fielding, and fighting spirit stood at par with the best in the world, showing that Indian women's cricket is now a complete and balanced force—a blend of skill, strategy, and sacrifice.

Dawn of a new sporting culture

This victory is not just about a game; it marks the dawn of a new sporting culture in India. Daughters from small towns and remote villages have reached the world stage, embodying the social shift where families, communities, and the nation now encourage women to dream fearlessly. The Women's World Cup 2025 has shown that in today's India, sports are no longer restricted to the boundary lines of the field—they are part of our national pride and collective consciousness. Cricket is no longer the symbol of male dominance; it is now the celebration of women's excellence. This golden moment reflects a future where games will be judged not by gender but by genius, where only talent and hard work will earn respect. Every little girl holding a bat in a dusty lane can now dream that one day she too will wear India's colours.

This is not merely a victory story—it is the declaration of a new India that dares to dream and allows its daughters to soar. Among the many lights illuminating the nation, the glow of this triumph shines brightest.

Lalit Garg, Columnist

QUICK READ

Indian tourists shun Nepal amid safety concerns

Kathmandu

Nepal has seen a sharp drop in Indian tourist arrivals this year due to safety concerns after violent protests. Between January and October, only 2,43,350 Indian visitors arrived, down 11% from last year. Overall foreign tourists grew slightly to 9,43,716. The September Gen-Z protests left over 70 dead, damaged hotels, and disrupted travel plans. Some Indian groups canceled trips fearing insecurity. Although arrivals rose slightly in October, tourism operators say caution still affects land travel.

Pak forces accused of Baloch civilian abductions

Quetta

A human rights group has accused Pakistani security forces of forcibly disappearing three Baloch civilians in Turbat, Balochistan, amid rising reports of extrajudicial killings and torture. The victims—Yasir, Waheed Ahmed, and Zareef Ahmed—were taken from their homes between October 30–31. The group also condemned the daylight murder of student Abdul Rehman by alleged state-backed death squads, calling it a tactic to intimidate locals. Recent attacks on Baloch women and families highlight what the rights body calls a systematic campaign of terror. Officials warn these acts show a collapse of justice and law in Balochistan.

Israel receives remains of 3 more hostages from Gaza

Tel Aviv

Israel Defence Forces (IDF) have returned the remains of three deceased hostages, escorting them across the border into Israel. The coffins are being taken to the National Centre for Forensic Medicine, where authorities will carry out identification procedures. Officials confirmed that the operation was handled with full security and respect for the families involved. The return marks a solemn moment for the victims' relatives, who have been waiting for closure. Israeli authorities have not disclosed details about the hostages' deaths but assured the public that the process of identification and verification is ongoing.

'Others testing nukes underground, US will too'

Trump says the US has more nuclear weapons than any other country, claiming it could "blow up the world 150 times"

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump has claimed that several nations, including Russia, China, North Korea, and Pakistan, are secretly testing nuclear weapons, Trump said the United States would also restart its nuclear weapons testing programme after more than 30 years.

He explained that other countries were conducting underground tests, and America could not remain the only nation avoiding them.

"Russia's testing, China's testing, and certainly North Korea and Pakistan have been testing," Trump said. He added that while other nations keep their programmes quiet, the United States is open about its actions. Trump argued that testing was necessary to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the country's nuclear arsenal.

The President said the US has more nuclear weapons than any other country, claiming it could "blow up the world 150 times." He mentioned that he had discussed disarmament with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping but maintained that testing was essential to understand how the weapons worked.

Trump also posted on Truth Social that he had directed the Department of War to "start testing our nuclear weapons on an equal basis" with others. He said the process would begin immediately, referring to Russia's recent testing plans. Though scientists say computer simulations now make actual testing unnecessary, Trump stressed that America must match its rivals to stay strong.

China refutes Trump's nuclear claim, urges US to honour test ban

BEIJING

China has strongly rejected US President Donald Trump's claims that it secretly conducted nuclear weapons tests. Responding on Monday, Beijing said it is a "responsible nuclear-weapons state" that follows a strict self-defense policy and remains committed to its promise of halting nuclear testing.

The denial came after Trump alleged that Russia, China, North Korea, and Pakistan were all conducting underground nuclear tests.

During a CBS interview aired on Sunday, Trump said, "Russia's testing, and China's testing, but they don't talk about it. I don't want to be the only country that doesn't

test." He suggested that the United States would soon resume nuclear testing, ending a pause that has lasted for more than three decades.

China's foreign ministry dismissed Trump's remarks as "unfounded," emphasizing that the country abides by global disarmament principles. It stated that Beijing's nuclear policy has always been based on defense and deterrence, not aggression.

Trump's statements followed reports of Russia testing new nuclear-capable weapons, including a cruise missile and an underwater drone. He said the US must match other nations' testing programs and ordered the Department of War to begin testing "on an equal basis."

Experts have questioned Trump's claim, noting that no country other than North Korea has conducted an actual nuclear explosion in recent decades. His comments have reignited global debate over nuclear competition and arms control, especially amid rising geopolitical tensions between Washington, Moscow, and Beijing.

Beijing reiterated that it seeks peace and stability through dialogue, not escalation.

The UN confirms 10 deaths during election violence and calls for probe; Tanzanian govt denies claims, saying elections were largely peaceful

Samia Hassan sworn in as Tanzania Prez for 2nd term

DODOMA

Tanzania's President Samia Suluhu Hassan was sworn in on Monday for her first elected term following a landslide victory in a tense election marred by deadly violence. Hassan, who first assumed office in 2021 after the death of former President John Magufuli, won last week's vote with an overwhelming 97.66 percent.

The swearing-in ceremony took place at a military base in the capital city, Dodoma. Wearing a red headscarf and dark glasses, the 65-year-old leader took the oath of office before cheering supporters and senior officials. However, her victory came amid widespread unrest across the country.

Protests broke out during voting on Wednesday, with demonstrators torching government buildings while police responded with tear gas and gunfire, witnesses said. The main opposition party claimed hundreds were killed in the chaos, accusing the government of election irregularities and voter suppression.

The United Nations human rights office confirmed at least ten deaths in three major cities and called for an independent investigation. Tanzania's government dismissed the opposition's figures as "hugely exaggerated," insisting the election had been peaceful in most regions. Reuters was unable to verify the number of casualties independently.

Hassan's victory marks a new chapter for Tanzania, but also raises concerns about democratic space in the country. With most main opposition candidates disqualified before the polls, critics say the election lacked competition. Still, Hassan vowed to unite the nation and promote stability after years of political tension. She pledged to strengthen democracy and economic growth in her first full term as president.

Kuala Lumpur truce: Thailand, Cambodia start weapon pullback

BANGKOK

Thailand and Cambodia have begun withdrawing heavy weapons and clearing landmines along their tense border, officials announced on Monday.

The move follows last week's signing of an expanded ceasefire deal in Kuala Lumpur, witnessed by US President Donald Trump. The agreement comes three months after a deadly five-day conflict that left at least 48 people dead and displaced thousands.

According to Thai government spokesman Siripong Angkasakulkiat, Thailand will not release 18 Cambodian soldiers detained during the fighting or reopen border checkpoints until it confirms that Cambodia is following the terms of the truce. Rear Admiral Surasant Kongsiri, a Thai defense ministry spokesperson, said joint de-mining operations have already begun, with Thailand proposing the removal of mines from 13 areas and Cambodia from one.

The move follows last week's signing of an expanded ceasefire deal in Kuala Lumpur in the presence of US President Donald Trump

The two nations had earlier agreed to withdraw heavy weapons in three phases—starting with rocket systems, then artillery, followed by tanks and armored vehicles. Cambodia's defense ministry said the first phase, which began on November 1, would take about three weeks to complete.

"We expect the withdrawal of heavy weapons to be concluded by the end of the year," Surasant said, noting that both sides have also intensified cooperation on border security and transnational crime. Efforts are underway to settle disputed boundary zones through an urgent joint demarcation process.

Escalation & de-escalation

- The two sides move forward with de-escalation measures after signing a US-brokered ceasefire agreement in Kuala Lumpur last week.
- The truce came three months after a deadly five-day border conflict in July reignited long-standing hostilities.
- The outbreak of violence this time is cited as the deadliest in decades between the two Southeast Asian nations that left at least 48 dead and displaced hundreds of thousands.
- The two neighbors outlined a three-phase withdrawal of heavy weapons from border zones—starting first with rocket systems on November 1, followed by artillery, then tanks and armored vehicles.
- Thailand has proposed the clearance of mines in 13 locations, while Cambodia has identified one aarea for similar action.
- However, Thailand has kept on hold the release of 18 detained Cambodian soldiers and the reopening of border crossings until its confident Cambodia is adhering to the ceasefire agreement.

South Korea, US report 'progress' on wartime OPCON transfer

SEOUL

South Korea and the United States have reported "meaningful progress" in meeting conditions for Seoul to regain wartime operational control (OPCON) from Washington.

The development was discussed during the 50th Military Committee Meeting held in Seoul, where South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) Chairman Gen. Jin Yong-sung met with his US counterpart Gen. Dan Caine. It was their first in-person meeting in three months.

According to a statement from South Korea's JCS, both sides agreed to continue efforts toward a full OPCON transition while strengthening the alliance's joint defense capabilities. They said recent evaluations confirmed steady progress based on the standards set in their conditions-based transition plan.

The two generals also discussed ways to modernize the military alliance, improve interoperability, and increase readiness against rising regional threats. They noted that the Indo-Pacific region's security environment has become increasingly complex due to North Korea's growing nuclear and missile programs and global arms competition.

Lanka rolls out task force to save forests

COLOMBO

Sri Lanka has launched a new task force called 'Wana Surakuma' to better protect its forests and wildlife. The initiative, set up under the Ministry of Environment, aims to stop illegal activities that harm the environment and improve the country's conservation efforts.

The task force will bring together officers from the Department of Wildlife Conservation, the Department of Forest Conservation, the Police Special Task Force, and Sri Lanka's armed forces. They will work together to respond quickly to forest and wildlife-related crimes. A 24-hour hotline, 1995, has been introduced, allowing people to report any incidents of forest destruction or environmental harm.

This comes as Sri Lanka prepares for the European Union's Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), which starts on December 30. The rule requires all products entering the EU, including rubber, palm oil, soy, cattle, cocoa, coffee, and wood, to be legally sourced and deforestation-free. Rubber exports, worth $338 million in 2024, are especially affected.

While big plantations may find it easier to meet these rules, small farmers face difficulties due to poor facilities.

SU DO KU

Brain-Bender: Can You Solve It?

4	9	7	2	5	6	3	1	8
3	5	2	8	4	1	7	9	6
1	8	6	7	3	9	5	4	2
8	3	9	4	6	2	1	5	7
7	2	1	5	9	8	4	6	3
6	4	5	3	1	7	8	2	9
5	7	4	6	2	3	9	8	1
2	1	3	9	8	5	6	7	4
9	6	8	1	7	4	2	3	5

1	4	2	9	7	8	3	5	6
9	6	8	4	3	5	1	2	7
3	7	5	1	2	6	9	8	4
8	2	7	3	6	4	5	9	1
4	9	1	8	5	2	7	6	3
5	3	6	7	1	9	8	4	2
7	5	4	2	9	3	6	1	8
2	1	9	6	8	7	4	3	5
6	8	3	5	4	1	2	7	9

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

Fill a 9×9 grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3×3 section contain all of the digits between 1 and 9.

Iran plans 8 nuclear plants with Russia's help

TEHRAN

Iran will build eight new nuclear power plants with Russia's support to boost clean energy production, the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran announced. Four plants will be in Bushehr, and four more along the northern and southern coastlines.

President Masoud Pezeshkian emphasized that Iran's nuclear program is peaceful and will not pursue weapons. The plants aim to generate 20,000 megawatts of electricity. Construction has already begun on a northern coastal site and a previously started plant in Khuzestan. Pezeshkian criticized Western nations for targeting Iranian scientists and restricting technological independence while asserting Iran's right to nuclear development for civilian needs.

TRIBUTE TO FALLEN LEADERS

Hasina calls 'Jail Killing Day' painful chapter in Bangladesh's history

DHAKA

Bangladesh's former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called the Jail Killing Day one of the most painful and shameful events in the country's history.

She made these remarks while marking the 50th anniversary of the killing of four senior Awami League leaders inside Dhaka Central Jail.

The slain leaders—Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmad, Captain M Mansur Ali, and AHM Qamaruzzaman—were key organisers of the 1971 Liberation War.

Hasina said the tragedy followed soon after the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family on August 15, 1975. She described how the same group of conspirators later murdered Bangabandhu's trusted comrades within the supposed safety of the jail. "It was not just a murder of four leaders but an attempt to destroy the ideals of independence and democracy," her statement read.

She explained that the killings aimed to erase the spirit of the Liberation War and allow anti-independence forces

to regain political ground. The former Prime Minister praised the four leaders' courage and devotion, saying they guided the provisional government during the war when Bangabandhu was imprisoned in Pakistan. They built diplomatic ties and won global support for Bangladesh's freedom, Hasina noted.

Paying tribute to the "martyred" leaders, Hasina vowed that the Awami League would never surrender to lies or conspiracies. She promised to continue working toward a modern, fair, and prosperous Bangladesh, free from corruption and inequality, and guided by the ideals of the Liberation War.

QUICK READ

'India's solar capacity to touch 216 GW in FY28'

New Delhi

India is expected to have around 216 GW of solar capacity generating 305 billion units by FY28, driven by strong responses to applications under the Production Linked Incentive scheme, a report said on Monday. The PLI scheme is enabling rapid capacity expansion, while efficiency gains where 1,700-2,200 panels (at 500 watts peak) are typically deployed for every 1 MW of solar power, are reinforcing scale advantages in project execution, said the report from CareEdge Advisory, a subsidiary of ratings agency CareEdge Ratings.

'India shows rapid growth in AI, digital infra sectors'

New Delhi

India is rapidly progressing towards becoming a developed nation by taking leadership in developing Artificial Intelligence technologies and enhancing digital public infrastructure, said experts on Monday. Speaking to IANS, on the sidelines at the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2025 at Bharat Mandapam here, the experts highlighted India's progress in diverse fields, even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his speech, showcased India's success in every sector from health to science to space. India is leading in different sectors such as health and space. Earlier, we used to be just followers; now we are leaders, it's a very big change.

Indian stock markets end higher after two days of losses

Mumbai

Indian equity markets ended a volatile session on a positive note on Monday, snapping a two-day losing streak. Gains in real estate and state-owned bank stocks helped lift the indices despite early weakness. After opening lower, the Sensex recovered to touch an intra-day high of 84,127 before closing 39.78 points, or 0.05 per cent, higher at 83,978.49. The Nifty also gained 41.25 points, or 0.16 per cent, to end at 25,763.35. The Nifty oscillated between 25,700 and 25,800 through the day, showing resilience after briefly dipping below the October 24 low of 25,718, analysts said.

GST revenue momentum: Collections rise 7.8% in Oct

The upward trend shows sustained consumption recovery, broadening tax base, and robust fiscal health placing India on a stable trajectory for FY 2025-26

NEW DELHI

India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections recorded a healthy year-on-year growth of 7.8 per cent, rising from Rs 9,65,138 crore in October 2024 to Rs 10,40,055 crore in October 2025, according to official data released on Monday.

The surge reflects the economy's resilience, sustained festive spending, and effective tax compliance across sectors.

The gross GST revenue for October 2025 stood at Rs 1,95,936 crore, marking a 4.6% increase compared to Rs 1,87,346 crore collected during the same month last year. The government attributed the uptick to strong consumer demand during the festive period and the impact of the recent GST rate rationalisation implemented in late September 2025.

Domestic GST revenues showed steady improvement, with the monthly gross domestic revenue rising 2 per cent — from Rs 1,42,251 crore in October 2024 to Rs 1,45,052 crore in October 2025. Meanwhile, GST from imports registered a robust 12.9 per cent growth, underscoring buoyant trade sentiments and expanding import activity.

Refunds also witnessed substantial growth. The total GST refunds increased by 39.6 per cent, driven by domestic refunds up 26.5 per cent and import refunds up 55.3 per cent, climbing from Rs 10,484 crore to Rs 13,260 crore and Rs 8,808 crore to Rs 13,675 crore, respectively.

The Net GST revenue for October 2025 stood at Rs 1,69,002 crore, reflecting a 0.6 per cent monthly and 7.1 per cent yearly growth over Rs 1,68,054 crore collected in the corresponding period last year.

States such as Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Haryana contributed over 40 per cent of total GST revenue, reaffirming their role as India's key industrial and consumption centres. The consistent rise in collections signals a stable fiscal outlook for FY 2025–26.

GST COLLECTIONS IN OCT 2025

Component	Amount (₹ cr)
Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST)	36,547
State Goods and Services Tax (SGST)	45,134
Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST)	1,06,443
Cess	7,812
Total Gross GST Collection	1,95,936

Key takeaways

- Gross GST collections in October 2025 amount to ₹1,95,936 crores
- A year-on-year monthly growth of 4.6% for the period October 2024 to October 2025
- Gross Domestic GST revenue grew by 2.0%, rising from ₹1,42,251 crore in October 2024 to ₹1,45,052 crore in October 2025.

Sanjay Garg takes charge as Director General of BIS

NEW DELHI

Garg, a 1994 batch officer of the Kerala cadre, brings with him over three decades of administrative experience.

Senior IAS officer Sanjay Garg has officially assumed charge as the Director General of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the national standards body of India, effective November 1.

An official statement released on Monday announced his appointment, marking a new chapter for the organization that plays a vital role in ensuring product quality and consumer safety nationwide.

Garg, a 1994 batch officer of the Kerala cadre, brings with him over three decades of administrative experience spanning strategic planning, policy formulation, and implementation across multiple sectors, including agriculture, food logistics, defence, finance, and industrial promotion. His leadership is expected to strengthen BIS's initiatives in enhancing quality standards and supporting national policies on consumer protection, environmental sustainability, and food safety.

Before joining BIS, Garg served as Additional Secretary in the Department of Agriculture, Research and Education (DARE) and as Secretary of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). During his tenure, he spearheaded digital transformation initiatives, introducing advanced IT applications in research management and administration. He also played a crucial role in expanding the Kisan Sarathi portal, which connects farmers directly with agricultural scientists, enhancing real-time knowledge exchange.

In addition to his contributions to the agricultural sector, Garg has managed World Bank projects in India and worked extensively in promoting and deregulating the defence and leather industries. As Director General, Garg will oversee BIS's mandate of developing national standards, certifying product quality, and ensuring conformity assessment schemes and hallmarking of precious metals, thereby reinforcing consumer trust and industrial excellence across India.

RISING IMPORTS

Aluminium body seeks 15% import duty, tougher scrap norms

MUMBAI

The Aluminium Association of India (AAI) has urged the Ministry of Mines to introduce a flat 15% basic customs duty on all aluminium products, citing an alarming rise in imports that threaten domestic manufacturing and investment prospects.

The representation comes amid growing protectionist measures globally, which have redirected surplus aluminium from other countries into India's markets.

According to AAI, aluminium imports into India have surged by over 50 per cent in the last five years, posing a serious challenge to local producers. The association warned that without corrective measures, India could become a dumping ground for low-quality aluminium scrap. It called for stringent quality controls on non-standard scrap imports to ensure that only certified, high-grade materials enter the domestic market.

The industry body emphasized that implementing a uniform 15 per cent duty would help protect domestic manufacturers, attract investments worth around Rs 20 lakh crore, and ensure long-term sustainability in line with the government's Vision 2047 for the aluminium sector. This vision identifies aluminium as a strategic metal vital to national priorities such as defence, infrastructure, power, aerospace, transportation, and overall economic growth.

India's aluminium demand, currently at 5.5 million tonnes, is projected to reach 8.5 million tonnes by 2030 and an estimated 37 million tonnes by 2047, according to the Aluminium Vision Document.

AAI also cautioned against the growing trend of scrap nationalism in developed economies, where nations like the US and EU retain high-quality scrap for domestic use while exporting inferior material to developing countries. The association warned that India could face a situation similar to China's rare earth export restrictions if immediate action is not taken to secure its aluminium supply chain.

Adani's Ambuja Cements Q2 net profit soars 364%

AHMEDABAD

Ambuja Cements, part of the diversified Adani Portfolio, on Monday reported strong results for the July-September quarter of the current financial year with consolidated net profit soaring 364% year-on-year to Rs 2,302.3 crore, compared to Rs 496.5 crore in the year-ago period.

The company's standalone PAT also surged nearly three times to Rs 1,387.55 crore, compared to Rs 500.66 crore in the same quarter last fiscal a jump of 177 per cent YoY.

During the quarter, the company's total revenue reached Rs 9,174 crore, marking its highest-ever second-quarter performance and a 21% rise YoY.

Vinod Bahety, CEO, Ambuja Cements, said this quarter has been noteworthy for the cement industry. Despite the headwinds from prolonged monsoons, the sector will benefit from the tailwinds of several favourable developments including GST 2.0 reforms, the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS), and the withdrawal of coal cess, he added.

PHDCCI calls for dedicated Dept of Critical Minerals

NEW DELHI

The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) on Monday called on the government to set up a dedicated Department of Critical Minerals and implement 'aggressive mineral diplomacy' to protect India from global supply-chain risks.

In a brainstorming session organised by the industry body, experts called for increased focus on the development of a full critical minerals supply chain from exploration to extraction, processing, value-added development, and commercialisation to marketing as done by China under its National Mission approach.

Anil Chaudhary, senior member, Minerals & Metals Committee, PHDCCI, and former Chairman, SAIL, complimented the government for identifying 30 critical minerals and called for the inclusion of coking coal in the list of critical minerals.

India has been importing 90 per cent of the coking coal requirement, worth $15 billion, every year, which is likely to double in the next 10-12 years, he reminded.

Speakers emphasised the need for inter-ministerial coordination, stockpiling and keeping buffer inventories, as done by the US in the oil & gas sector. They also stressed the need for reduced bureaucratic obstacles and incentives for private investment in critical mineral exploration and processing.

Chaudhary mentioned that critical mineral supplies are susceptible to trade and geopolitical problems, and hence, India should form strategic partnerships with smaller, resource-rich nations like Congo, Mozambique, Afghanistan and certain Latin American countries to decrease reliance on China.

Deepak Bhatnagar, Secretary General, Pellet Manufacturers' Association of India, advocated for a holistic and time-bound mission-mode approach for the development of critical minerals, on the lines of Mission Agni, started by former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam. Abhinav Sengupta, Associate Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers, emphasised that the energy transition will be critical mineral-intensive, as EVs are 6 times more mineral-intensive than conventional vehicles.

South Korean carmakers see Oct sales slump amid holidays

SEOUL

South Korea's major automakers, including Hyundai Motor, Kia Corp., and GM Korea, reported a drop in their October sales as fewer working days during the Chuseok holiday and production disruptions weighed on output.

Industry data released on Monday showed overall declines across leading carmakers, with only KG Mobility managing a modest gain on the back of stronger overseas demand. Hyundai Motor Co., South Korea's biggest carmaker, said its global sales in October dropped 6.9 per cent from a year earlier, weighed down by fewer working days at home due to last month's Chuseok holiday.

Hyundai Motor sold 351,753 vehicles last month, down from 377,917 units a year earlier, the company said in a release. Domestic sales slumped 17.1 per cent to 53,822 units, while overseas sales went down 4.8 per cent to 297,931, reports Yonhap news agency.

Kia Corp., South Korea's second-largest automaker, said its sales fell 0.5% in October due to decreased domestic sales. Kia, a smaller affiliate of local industry leader Hyundai Motor Co., sold 263,904 vehicles in October, down from 265,344 units in the same month of last year, the company said in a release.

Domestic sales tumbled 13.1% to 40,001 units from 46,025, while overseas sales rose 2.1% to 223,014 from 218,389 over the same period. GM Korea Co., the South Korean unit of General Motors Co., said that its monthly sales declined 20.8% in October from a year earlier amid recent production losses in connection with this year's wage negotiations.

BSE resolves 143 investor plaints against 90 firms in Oct

MUMBAI

The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) said on Monday that it resolved 143 investor complaints against 90 companies during the month of October. These include several complaints carried forward from previous months.

During the same period, the exchange received 120 new complaints against 81 companies, the BSE said in its monthly investor grievance report. During the month, BSE received 120 complaints against 81 companies. In the same period 143 complaints were resolved against 90 companies, it said. These resolved complaints include complaints brought forward from the previous periods, the bourse added.

According to the exchange, the top three companies where investor complaints have been pending for redressal for more than one month as of October 31, are JSW Steel Limited with five complaints, Aneri Fincap Limited with four complaints, and Franklin Industries Limited with four complaints.

FALL OF A HOTSPOT

Gen-Z stir: Nepal sees 11% drop in Indian tourist footfall

KATHMANDU

Nepal has witnessed a notable decline in Indian tourist arrivals during the first ten months of 2025, even as total foreign arrivals showed only marginal growth, according to the latest data released by the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB).

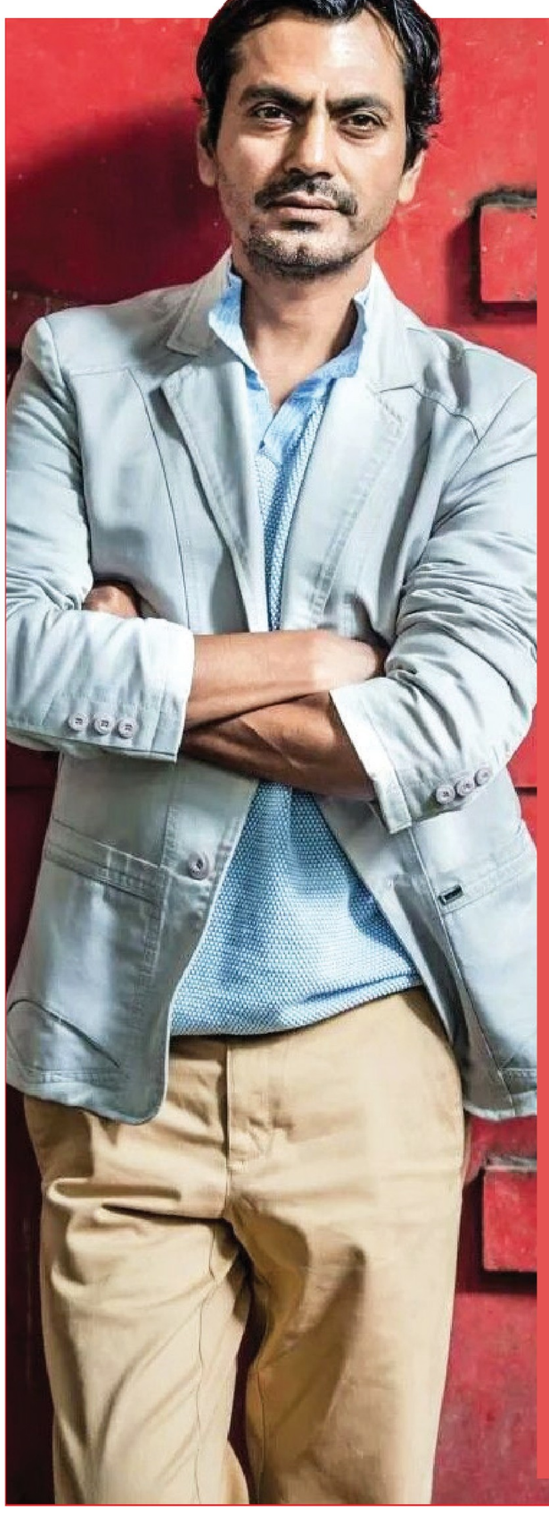
India, which traditionally accounts for nearly one-fourth of Nepal's total international visitors, saw a year-on-year decline of 11 per cent, with arrivals dropping to 2,43,350 between January and October 2025. Overall foreign tourist inflows increased by just 0.3 per cent, reaching 9,43,716 during the same period, highlighting a sluggish recovery for the Himalayan nation's tourism industry.

Arrivals from China, Nepal's third-largest source market, also fell by 5.3 per cent to 78,929, marking a significant dip from the pre-Covid era when China ranked as the second-largest contributor to Nepal's tourism sector.

Tourism entrepreneurs attributed the fall in Indian tourist numbers to the Gen-Z movement, a violent protest that erupted in early September, leaving over 70 people dead and causing extensive damage to property. The unrest severely impacted Nepal's law and order situation and dented its international image. Luxury hotels such as the Hilton and Hyatt Regency were among the worst affected the Hilton was completely destroyed by fire, while the Hyatt remains closed for maintenance.

Travel agencies reported widespread cancellations from Indian tourists following the violence. Four groups of Indian tourists cancelled their trips after the protests, said Umesh Danai, Managing Director of Speedy Tourism and Travels Pvt. Ltd. Many were supposed to arrive via the land route but backed out due to safety concerns.

Data from NTB shows that September 2025 arrivals dropped by 18.3 per cent overall, with Indian arrivals down by 32.3 per cent, Chinese by 34.9 per cent, and American by 4 per cent.



Nawazuddin returns as Jatil Yadav once again

Actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui is back as Inspector Jatil Yadav in the upcoming crime thriller Raat Akeli Hai: The Bansal Murders, the sequel to the 2020 hit Raat Akeli Hai. The film's makers confirmed the news, calling it one of the most awaited thrillers of the year.

Talking about his return, Nawazuddin said it feels like "getting back to unfinished business." He described his character as "flawed, restless, yet determined to seek justice." The sequel, he added, tests Jatil's beliefs and brings new challenges that push him to his limits. Directed by Honey Trehan, the film promises a darker, more gripping mystery. "Smita and Honey have built a world that feels raw and real, where every clue hides a secret," Nawazuddin shared. He also thanked RSVP, MacGuffin Pictures, and Netflix for letting him explore more layers of the character. Netflix announced the sequel on Instagram with the caption, "Ek raat, ek raaz aur ek hatyakand. Inspector Jatil Yadav is back, and the stakes are higher than ever."

The movie stars Chitrangada Singh, Rajat Kapoor, Deepti Naval, Ila Arun, Revathy, and Radhika Apte. Set years after the first film, it follows Jatil as he investigates a new brutal murder that reveals shocking secrets. The film will premiere at the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa before streaming on Netflix.

Sonali Kulkarni joins Nani's much awaited film The Paradise

National Award-winning actress Sonali Kulkarni has officially joined the cast of The Paradise, the much-anticipated big-budget film starring Natural Star Nani. The film marks Nani's second collaboration with director Srikanth Odela, who earlier impressed audiences with Dasara.

The makers confirmed Sonali's inclusion by releasing a special birthday poster featuring her. She will be seen playing Nani's mother, and her powerful voice is heard in the film's announcement video, adding emotional depth to the story. Having such a seasoned performer onboard has heightened expectations for the project.

The film also stars veteran actor Mohan Babu in the pivotal role of Shikanja Maalik, while Kill fame Raghav Juyal joins the ensemble in a key part. Sources reveal that the shooting is moving forward at a brisk pace with grand sets and intense sequences being filmed.

Chiranjeevi begins climax shoot for mega action drama

The much-awaited climax fight sequence of Megastar Chiranjeevi's upcoming film Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu has officially begun shooting in Hyderabad. Directed by Anil Ravipudi, the high-octane action scene is said to be one of the most stylish and grand sequences in the movie.

According to sources close to the unit, filming started on Sunday with Chiranjeevi leading an intense combat scene alongside a group of fighters. Renowned choreographer Venkat Master is overseeing the action, ensuring each movement is packed with precision and visual appeal.

Insiders describe the sequence as unique and visually striking, promising to offer fans a grand cinematic experience. "With Chiranjeevi's energy and Ravipudi's flair, the climax will be both powerful and memorable," the source added. The film, produced by Sahu Garapati and Sushmita Konidela under Shine Screens and Gold Box Entertainments, stars Nayanthara opposite Chiranjeevi. It marks their third collaboration after Sye Raa Narasimha Reddy and Godfather. Adding to the excitement, actor Venkatesh will make a special cameo appearance — his first-ever screen outing with Chiranjeevi. The film's teaser, released on Chiranjeevi's birthday, showcased the Megastar in a commanding avatar with a "Boss" vibe.

Rashmika starts shooting for Mysaa in Kerala

National crush Rashmika Mandanna has officially begun shooting for her upcoming pan-Indian film Mysaa. The filming kicked off today in the lush forest region of Athirappilly, Kerala, marking the start of an exciting new project for the Pushpa star. Directed by debutant Rawindra Pulle, Mysaa is described as an emotional action drama with a strong storyline rooted in culture and identity. Rashmika takes on the challenging role of a Gond tribal woman, showcasing a never-seen-before side of her acting range. Her first-look poster, released recently, features her in a fierce and intense avatar, hinting at a powerful performance. Actor Tarak Ponnappa will play an important role in the movie, though the makers have kept other character details under wraps for now. The film's shoot is expected to move across multiple natural locations to bring authenticity to its narrative. Produced by Anil, Ajay Sayyapureddy, and Srikanth Sathi under the Un-Formula Films banner, Mysaa also boasts music by acclaimed composer Jakes Bejoy, known for his gripping and emotional scores.

With Thamma recently released and The Girlfriend set to hit theaters on November 7, Rashmika continues her busy streak, proving once again why she remains one of Indian cinema's most sought-after stars.

Jennifer Aniston goes Instagram official with boyfriend Jim Curtis

Jennifer Aniston has finally confirmed her relationship with boyfriend Jim Curtis, making it Instagram official and putting an end to months of speculation. The Friends star delighted fans when she posted a sweet black-and-white photo of herself hugging Jim from behind, calling him "my love."

In the heartfelt birthday post for Jim, the 56-year-old actress wrote, "Happy birthday, my love," followed by a red heart emoji and the word "Cherished." Fans quickly filled the comment section with love and excitement. One user wrote, "You are glowing, Jen! So happy for you," while another added, "Two beautiful souls, inside and out."

Jim Curtis, a hypnotherapist, author, and life coach, reportedly began dating Jennifer earlier this year. According to PEOPLE, the couple first sparked romance rumors in July after being spotted together on a yacht in Mallorca, Spain. Sources close to the actress revealed that the two were introduced by mutual friends and initially connected over Jim's work.

"Jen had read his book and really admired what he does. He's very different from anyone she's dated before," a source shared.

MAKERS POSTPONE MEENAKSHI CHAUDHARY'S FIRST LOOK REVEAL

The makers of NC24, actor Naga Chaitanya's upcoming mythical thriller directed by Virupaksha fame Karthik Varma Dandu, have postponed the first-look reveal of actress Meenakshi Chaudhary out of respect for victims of a recent tragedy.

Meenakshi plays an archaeologist named Lakshya in the film. Her character poster was scheduled to be unveiled today, but the team decided to delay it following a heartbreaking incident in Chevella, Rangareddy district.

In an official note, the production team expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives and injuries caused by the tragedy. They extended heartfelt condolences to the affected families and wished a quick recovery to the injured. "Out of respect for those impacted, we have decided to postpone Meenakshi Chaudhary's look reveal to tomorrow," the statement read.

SHANAYA KAPOOR reflects on unpredictable film journey

As Shanaya Kapoor celebrated her birthday, the 26-year-old actor reflected on her first year in films and the challenges she has faced. Her debut film, Aankhon Ki Gustaakhiyan, released in July, marking a milestone she describes as both special and humbling. "This year feels unique. A friend reminded me of a promise to celebrate my birthday when my film came out, and I plan to do just that with a quiet dinner with my friends," she shared.

Shanaya candidly spoke about the ups and downs of her journey. "You can sign a film today and lose it tomorrow. I signed projects that didn't happen, and even a film I shot got shelved. No boy ever broke my heart the way the films did," she laughed. Despite setbacks, she credits her parents, especially her father Sanjay Kapoor, for teaching her resilience. "He faced every challenge with a smile and never compromised on his passion. That mindset shaped me," she said.

Reflecting on her growth, Shanaya said, "This industry is unpredictable. You can't take anything for granted. Holding a script now, I appreciate every opportunity. These experiences have made me more grounded and mature."

She also addressed preconceived notions about her life outside films. "People saw fashion looks or social outings, not the real me. This birthday, I just want to celebrate with love and gratitude, especially with my parents who have supported me throughout," Shanaya added.

RGV showcases Ramya Krishnan in bold new look

Maverick filmmaker Ram Gopal Varma is back in action after a long break, beginning the shoot of his new Bollywood horror-thriller, Police Station Mein Bhoot. The film, described as a spiritual sequel to his cult hit Bhoot, stars Manoj Bajpayee and Genelia Deshmukh, with Ramya Krishnan in a pivotal role.

Fans are witnessing a completely new side of Ramya Krishnan, who in recent years has mostly portrayed motherly roles to stars like Prabhas, Mahesh Babu, and Vijay Deverakonda. For this project, however, the versatile actress undergoes a bold transformation.

Ram Gopal Varma recently shared two striking images of Ramya Krishnan sporting braids, tattoos, and a sleeveless top, casually seated with a cigarette. In the teaser photos, she exudes confidence and attitude, a stark contrast to her earlier maternal portrayals. RGV clarified that her character is not a ghost in the film, but her bold look already has fans excited.

This unexpected makeover highlights Ramya Krishnan's versatility and charisma, proving once again that she can effortlessly carry off any style with confidence and grace. Observers say this role may mark a fresh chapter in her career, giving audiences a thrilling new perspective of the veteran actress. Police Station Mein Bhoot promises suspense, style, and high-voltage drama, with Ramya Krishnan's bold avatar already making headlines.

Messi-Led Argentina Team to Visit Kerala in March: Min

Kerala is prepared to host WC champions, marking a historic occasion: Abdurahiman

MALAPPURAM

Kerala Sports Minister V. Abdurahiman on Monday announced that the Argentina football team, led by superstar Lionel Messi, will visit Kerala in March 2026 to play a friendly match.

Speaking at an event on the State's Sports Vision 2031 in Malappuram, Abdurahiman said the confirmation came directly from Argentina's team management. "Two days ago, we received an email from the Argentina team confirming that they will arrive in March. They also mentioned that an official announcement will be made soon," he said.

The Minister added that all necessary preparations for hosting the World Cup-winning team have been completed. The visit marks a major milestone for Kerala, a state with a passionate football following, and comes after earlier plans to host Argentina in November 2025 fell through.

"Even though we expected to complete the facilities at the Kochi Jawaharlal Nehru International Stadium, the work could not be finished on time. As stadium approval was not received, we had to postpone the match," Abdurahiman explained.

He emphasised that changes in international sports schedules are "common and should not be viewed as a victory or defeat." The Minister also lauded the State's initiative in attempting to bring one of the biggest names in world football to Kerala. Highlighting the government's broader vision, Abdurahiman said several international sporting events would be hosted in the coming years as part of efforts to strengthen the sports economy. "Football and cricket have become key drivers of employment and investment. We want Kerala to be a part of that global sports network," he added.

Earlier plans to host Argentina in Kochi this month were cancelled after the team's November international fixtures were announced without a Kerala stop.

Sinner Reclaims No. 1 Spot After Winning Paris Masters

PARIS

Italy's Jannik Sinner reclaimed the world No. 1 ranking after a dominant 6-4, 7-6 (4) victory over Canada's Felix Auger-Aliassime in the Paris Masters final. The win marked Sinner's 26th consecutive indoor triumph and his fifth title of 2025, capping a remarkable season of consistency and composure.

The four-time Grand Slam champion overtook Spain's Carlos Alcaraz to return to the top of men's tennis rankings, sealing the title without dropping a set throughout the tournament. Against Auger-Aliassime, Sinner did not concede a single break point, maintaining control with 91% of first-serve points won.

"It was such an intense final," Sinner said. "We both knew what was at stake. I'm extremely happy with how I played."

The ninth-seeded Auger-Aliassime needed to win in Paris to secure the final spot at the ATP Finals in Turin, but Sinner proved too strong, defeating him for the third consecutive time, including their U.S. Open semifinal clash earlier this year.

Clinching the title with a two-handed backhand down the line, Sinner lifted his arms in triumph before patting his heart and acknowledging the Parisian crowd. "The past few months have been amazing. We've worked hard to improve, and seeing these results makes me proud," he added.

Despite hitting more aces, Auger-Aliassime struggled to break Sinner's rhythm and later admitted, "Everything depended on the quality of his serve — hats off to him."

The 24-year-old Sinner now heads to Turin for the ATP Finals, saying he'll "take a few days off to recharge both body and mind" before closing out one of the best seasons of his career.

Sinner lifts his first Paris Masters title, extends indoor streak, and returns to top ranking

Haaland Double Powers Manchester City to Victory after Donnarumma Error

MANCHESTER

Erling Haaland's stunning form continued as his brace helped Manchester City defeat Bournemouth 3-1 in the Premier League, despite a costly blunder from goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma. The victory lifted City into second place, six points behind leaders Arsenal.

Haaland struck in the 17th and 33rd minutes, both times latching onto precise through balls from Rayan Cherki before finishing calmly past the goalkeeper. His double took his tally to 13 league goals this season — more than twice as many as any other player — and extended his remarkable streak of scoring two goals in each of his last four home appearances.

Bournemouth briefly leveled when Donnarumma misjudged an inswinging corner, patting the ball down in front of him for Tyler Adams to slot home. The Italian goalkeeper protested for a foul but was booked instead. City, however, quickly restored control as Nico O'Reilly, the local-born fullback, smashed home the third goal on the hour mark.

"Helping the team win is all that matters," Haaland said. "Whether it's by scoring or fighting for the ball, the goal is always victory."

City manager Pep Guardiola defended Donnarumma after the error, calling it "unbelievable" that the goal was allowed to stand. "Sometimes it's hard to understand why these decisions go against us," he said.

The win put City ahead of Bournemouth in the table, reaffirming their status as Arsenal's closest challengers. Haaland, meanwhile, has now scored 26 goals in 16 matches for club and country this season, once again proving his dominance at the Etihad.

In other action, West Ham ended an eight-month home win drought by defeating Newcastle 3-1, moving out of the bottom three.

Norwegian striker scores twice as City beat Bournemouth 3-1 to move second

Southgate Expresses Concern Amid St George's Flag Debate

LONDON

Former England manager Sir Gareth Southgate has voiced concern over the growing debate surrounding the display of the St George's flag, saying he fears the issue may threaten social unity. In recent months, the widespread appearance of St George's and Union Jack flags across England has divided public opinion — with some viewing it as patriotic pride and others as an intimidating symbol.

On Monday, Southgate said, "I worry about unity. I've seen what we did with the [England] team to unify every community. I do think there's more that bonds us all than separates us. We should focus more on what brings us together than what divides us." Southgate, who stepped down as England manager after the Euro 2024 final defeat to Spain, earned praise during his tenure for fostering inclusivity and national pride. His comments come as far-right groups attempt to politicise the flag, with incidents such as pitch invaders at a Salford City match trying to plant a St George's flag in protest against former England player Gary Neville, who had earlier criticised the "negative" display of the flag.

Ryan Williams's stars as BFC thrash Gokulam; Punjab ease past Mohammedan Sporting

Bengaluru FC, Punjab FC Set Up Winner-Takes-All Super Cup Clash

MARGAO

Ryan Williams produced a masterful performance as Bengaluru FC (BFC) stormed past Gokulam Kerala FC (GKFC) 4-0 in their AIFF Super Cup Group C match at the PJN Stadium, setting up a decisive clash with Punjab FC (PFC) for a semifinal berth.

Williams ran the show with two goals and an assist, while Vinith Venkatesh and Sunil Chhetri added one apiece in a dominant display. BFC took the lead in the seventh minute when Sirozhiddin Kuziev's through ball found Williams, who outpaced his marker to slot home into the bottom corner. Just before halftime, Taorem Kelvin Singh's cross was turned in by Vinith to make it 2-0.

Williams added his second three minutes after the restart, blasting in a pass from Nikhil Poojary. The Blues pressed for a fourth to match Punjab's goal difference, and it came in the 62nd minute as Chhetri combined neatly with Braian Sanchez before scoring from close range.

Earlier in the day at the GMC Stadium in Bambolim, Punjab FC maintained their perfect start with a 3-0 win over Mohammedan Sporting Club (MSC). Ninthoinganba Meetei (Ninthoi) opened the scoring in the 27th minute and later assisted Samir Zeljkovic, who netted his first goal for Punjab before halftime. In the 73rd minute, Mangenthang Kipgen sealed the victory with a composed finish from Leon Augustine's assist.

With both sides level on points and separated only by goal difference, the stage is set for a winner-takes-all showdown between Punjab FC and Bengaluru FC on November 5 at the PJN Stadium.

Results: Mohammedan SC 0–3 Punjab FC (Ninthoi 27, Zeljkovic 43, Kipgen 73); Gokulam Kerala 0–4 Bengaluru FC (Williams 7, 48; Vinith 44; Chhetri 62).

League Featuring Gayle, P Kumar in Trouble after Organisers Flee

NEW DELHI

The Indian Heaven Premier League (IHPL), a private cricket league that promised global stars in Srinagar, has run into a major payment scandal. The tournament began on October 25 at Bakshi Stadium with big names like Chris Gayle, Praveen Kumar, Thisara Perera, Richard Levi, and domestic veterans Parvez Rasool, Faiz Fazal, and Ishwar Pandey.

Gayle reportedly played three matches. But organisers from Delhi have allegedly fled, leaving players, umpires, vendors, and the hotel unpaid. The Srinagar hotel claims pending bills of over ₹80 lakh. ECB-affiliated umpire Melissa Juniper confirmed that officials vanished on Saturday night and phones are switched off. Vendors call the league "a scam." The J&K Sports Council said it only rented the stadium and has no link to IHPL.

Head Released from T20I Squad to Prepare for Ashes

HOBART

Australia opener Travis Head has been released from the national T20 International squad for the remaining two matches against India to focus on preparations for the upcoming Ashes series. The 31-year-old left-hander will return to red-ball cricket, featuring for South Australia alongside Alex Carey in the Sheffield Shield match against Tasmania starting November 10.

Head's decision comes as part of Cricket Australia's strategy to ensure key players are match-ready for the five-Test Ashes campaign, which begins on November 21 in Perth. This will mark Head's first first-class appearance since the West Indies tour in July.

Despite a strong showing earlier in the year, Head's recent form in limited-overs cricket has been modest, with a top score of 31 in his last eight innings across ODIs and T20Is. However, he remains one of Australia's most dependable Test batters, having topped the Sheffield Shield run charts before last year's Border-Gavaskar Trophy series.

Head follows Josh Hazlewood and Sean Abbott—both released earlier to focus on Sheffield Shield duty with New South Wales—in prioritising red-ball preparation. According to cricket.com.au, selectors allowed Head to decide whether to remain with the T20 squad or shift focus to first-class cricket, and he chose the latter.

Every member of Australia's probable Ashes squad is expected to feature in the upcoming Shield round as part of a comprehensive red-ball tune-up.

LONDON

Van Dijk Dismisses Rooney's 'Lazy' Leadership Criticism

Liverpool captain Virgil van Dijk has brushed aside Wayne Rooney's claim that the Reds lack leadership, calling it "lazy criticism." Following four consecutive league defeats, Rooney said Van Dijk and Mohamed Salah had "not really led" Liverpool this season. Responding after a crucial win over Aston Villa, Van Dijk said, "It doesn't hurt me… but that comment is a bit of lazy criticism. Last year when things went well, you didn't hear that." Rooney, while maintaining his stance, later praised Van Dijk as "one of the best defenders in the world over the past five years." Liverpool, currently third in the Premier League and seven points behind leaders Arsenal.

SEOUL

Jannik Sinner, Carlos Alcaraz Set for South Korea Showdown

World number one Jannik Sinner and Spain's Carlos Alcaraz will play an exhibition match in South Korea just eight days before the Australian Open. The duo will meet in the Hyundai Card Super Match in Incheon on January 10, with the season's first Grand Slam beginning in Melbourne on January 18. Organisers said it would be "the first opportunity for domestic tennis fans to see two top-ranked players compete." The pair, who have contested three of the four Grand Slam finals this year, have shared nine of the past ten major titles. Sinner recently reclaimed the world number one ranking after his Paris Masters victory, moving 250 points ahead of Alcaraz.

SHANGHAI

Turner Ecstatic After First International Podium

Jersey triathlete Ollie Turner said he was "lost for words" after earning his first international podium, finishing third at the Shanghai Ironman 70.3. The 27-year-old completed the 1.9 km swim, 90 km bike ride, and 21.1 km run in 3:41:19, marking a career breakthrough. Turner, who represented Jersey at the 2022 Commonwealth Games, said the result validated his belief in his potential. "It's given me a lot of confidence. Hopefully, I can start racking up more podiums," he said. After battling a serious blood disorder earlier this year, Turner said perseverance paid off. With triathlon dropped from the 2026 Commonwealth Games, he plans to focus on long-distance events and "put Jersey on the map."

BCCI ANNOUNCES ₹51 CR REWARD FOR INDIAN WOMEN'S TEAM

The triumph avenged heartbreaks of 2005 and 2017 finals but also marked the dawn of a new era

NEW DELHI

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Monday announced a monumental cash reward of ₹51 crore for the Indian women's cricket team following their historic World Cup triumph against South Africa in Navi Mumbai.

"As a token of appreciation, the BCCI will reward the Indian women's cricket team with a cash award of ₹51 crore for winning the World Cup. This includes all players, support staff, and the national selection committee," BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia said in a statement.

India's triumph under captain Harmanpreet Kaur marked the country's first-ever global title in women's cricket. With the 52-run victory, India joined Australia, England, and New Zealand as the only teams to have lifted the coveted ODI trophy.

After posting an imposing 298 for seven — the second-highest total in tournament history — India bowled out South Africa for 246 in 45.3 overs to seal the long-awaited crown.

The win not only erased the heartbreaks of the 2005 and 2017 finals but also ushered in a new era for women's cricket in India. "This is a golden chapter for the women's game. The team's grit and composure have made every Indian proud," the BCCI said in a congratulatory post.

The historic victory has also sparked nationwide celebrations, with former cricketers and fans hailing the team's achievement as a turning point in Indian cricket's evolution.

India Celebrates Historic Women's WC Triumph

NAVI MUMBAI

It was a watershed moment for Indian women's cricket as years of toil and near-misses culminated in an evening of redemption and history, with the team defeating South Africa by 52 runs.

India on Sunday raised a toast to its women's cricket team after a historic World Cup victory, hailed as a "defining moment" that could inspire generations. The triumph, sealed by a 52-run win over South Africa in the final, made India only the fourth team to lift the ODI title — a crowning glory for years of perseverance.

Cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar praised the achievement, recalling the 1983 men's World Cup as a turning point for Indian cricket. "Our Women's Team has done something truly special," he wrote on X. "They've inspired countless young girls to pick up a bat and believe they can lift that trophy one day." Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya called it an "iconic performance" and wrote, "History scripted! 140 crore Indians are cherishing this proud moment. Congratulations, World Champions!"

Star batter Virat Kohli lauded the team for its fearless spirit: "You've made every Indian proud with your belief throughout. Well done Harman and team. Jai Hind."

Former opener Virender Sehwag tweeted, "Champions! Harmanpreet Kaur aur unki team ne poori generation ko sapna de diya jeetne ka, ladne ka, chamakne ka!"

South African great AB de Villiers also congratulated the Indian team, calling the final "a showcase of how much women's cricket has grown."

Tributes poured in from across sports and cinema. Chess world champion Gukesh D hailed it as "a moment of national pride," while Mohammed Kaif said the win gave the team "an identity and a billion fans."

As former cricketer Wasim Jaffer aptly summed up: "There are decades where nothing happens; and there are weeks where decades happen."

: Destiny's child Shafali Verma found her way back into the Indian women's ODI side in unfortunate circumstances but left an indelible mark on the team's victorious World Cup campaign

'Destiny's Child' Shafali Verma Thrives in God's Plan

NAVI MUMBAI

If Shafali Verma were to get a tattoo that read "God's Plan," few would disagree that it perfectly defines her journey. Once sidelined from the World Cup squad, the 21-year-old opener returned under unexpected circumstances and emerged as one of the defining faces of India's title-winning campaign.

Dropped just months earlier, Shafali was recalled after in-form opener Pratika Rawal suffered an injury on the eve of the semifinals. Having been in domestic action for Haryana in Surat, she immediately joined the team and spent long hours batting at the DY Patil Stadium nets before the knockout stage.

"What happened with Pratika was unfortunate, but maybe God sent me here to do something good," she said before the semifinal.

After a brief cameo against Australia, Shafali delivered a masterful 87 in the final, setting up India's innings with poise and power. Her aggressive stroke play and composure provided the backbone of India's 298/7 total.

Captain Harmanpreet Kaur revealed that Shafali's surprise inclusion as a part-time bowler turned into a game-changer. "It was a gut feeling to give her the ball. She struck twice, and that shifted momentum," she said.

Head coach Amol Muzumdar credited Shafali's domestic form: "She was bowling four overs every T20 match. We knew she could fill that sixth-bowler role if needed."

Whether she retains her place once Pratika returns remains to be seen, but Shafali's redemption arc stands as a testament to faith, preparation, and seizing destiny's call — truly a chapter written in God's plan.

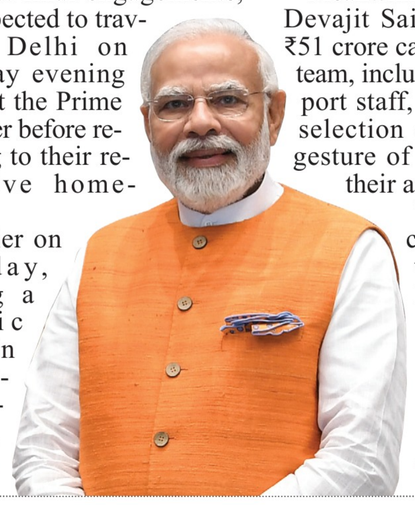
TRIUMPH MEETS LEADERSHIP

PM Modi to Host India's Women's World Cup-Winning Team on Nov 5

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will host the triumphant Indian women's cricket team at his residence on November 5, following their historic World Cup victory in Navi Mumbai. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led side defeated South Africa by 52 runs in the final on Sunday to claim India's maiden global title — a moment hailed as a milestone in the nation's sporting history.

According to a report, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has received a formal invitation from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) for the meeting. The players, currently in Mumbai for post-final engagements, are expected to travel to Delhi on Tuesday evening to meet the Prime Minister before returning to their respective hometowns.



Earlier on Monday, during a public event in Saharsa, Bihar, PM Modi congratulated the team, calling their triumph "a symbol of India's daughters' confidence and strength." He said, "Yesterday in Mumbai, India's daughters created history by winning the Women's Cricket World Cup for the first time. This victory is not limited to sport — it reflects the power and determination of young women from small towns and villages across the country."

He also extended his congratulations to the players' families, acknowledging their support and sacrifices. "These daughters of farmers, labourers, and middle-class families have made the entire nation proud," he added.

Meanwhile, BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia confirmed a ₹51 crore cash reward for the team, including players, support staff, and the national selection committee, as a gesture of appreciation for their achievement.

The team's upcoming meeting with the Prime Minister will mark the culmination of a landmark campaign that transformed Indian women's cricket forever.

Fans Chant 'India, India' at Bengaluru Airport, Celebrate on Streets after Historic Win

BENGALURU

Bengaluru burst into celebration on Sunday night after India's women's cricket team clinched its maiden ICC Women's World Cup title with a 52-run win against South Africa in Navi Mumbai.At Kempegowda International Airport, passengers, airline staff and ground personnel broke into cheers as the result flashed on screens. Markets, cafés, apartments and street corners across the city echoed with chants of "India! India!" Firecrackers lit up the skyline and sweets were freely distributed.

Videos of the celebrations flooded social media, while Bollywood stars including Vicky Kaushal, Anushka Sharma, Priyanka Chopra and Kareena Kapoor hailed the historic achievement. For Bengaluru, the night symbolised more than a victory in sport — it reflected pride, unity and belief that India's women can conquer the world.

NAVI MUMBAI

'Not Able to Understand': Harmanpreet Kaur on India's Historic WC Win

An emotional Harmanpreet Kaur opened up after leading India to their maiden ICC Women's World Cup title, admitting she was still processing the historic moment. "I'm numb, I'm not able to understand. There were ups and downs, but the team had self-belief," Harmanpreet said after India's 52-run victory over South Africa in the final at DY Patil Stadium. The skipper also shared how special it felt to celebrate alongside legends Mithali Raj, Jhulan Goswami, and Anjum Chopra. "Jhulan di was my biggest support. I'm very grateful I got to share this moment with her. Finally, we were able to touch this trophy," she said.

NAVI MUMBAI

Women's World Cup 2025: Full List of Award Winners and Prize Money

India Women etched their names in history by clinching their first-ever ICC Women's World Cup title with a 52-run victory over South Africa in the final at DY Patil Stadium. Shafali Verma earned the Player of the Match award for her stellar 87-run innings and two wickets, while Deepti Sharma was crowned Player of the Tournament for her exceptional all-round performance, finishing as the event's top wicket-taker with 22 scalps. India joined Australia, England, and New Zealand as ODI World Cup champions.

Award Winners and Prize Money

- Winners: India – ₹41.77 crore
- Runners-up: South Africa – ₹21.88 crore
- Player of the Match (Final): Shafali Verma
- Player of the Tournament: Deepti Sharma
- Most Runs: Laura Wolvaardt (571 runs)
- Most Wickets: Deepti Saharma (22 wickets)

NAVI MUMBAI

'Who Said Girls Can't Have It All?' Kareena Hails Women in Blue's Win

Actor Kareena Kapoor Khan joined the nationwide celebration after India's women's cricket team lifted their maiden ICC Women's World Cup trophy on home soil. Taking to Instagram on Monday morning, Kareena shared photos from the thrilling final and penned a heartfelt message congratulating the champions. Calling it a "proud moment" for every girl who dared to dream, she wrote, "A proud moment for INDIA, for SPORT, for each and every GIRL who dared to dream... You are the real heroes and have shown the world how it's done. Who said GIRLS can't have it all?"

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